The World's Daily Newspaper

Paris, Friday, November 20, 1998

Starr Opens Impeachment Inquiry by Denouncing Clinton

Japan Feels President's Magic' in **Tokyo Talk**

By Kevin Sullivan and John F. Harris

TOKYO - Harumi Kato is mad at Bill Clinton and thinks the president and everyone else in the United States should but out of Japan's financial

But Thursday evening, as she walked out of the television studio where Mr. Clinton held one of his trademark "town meetings," she pronounced her-self smitten: "Tonight, I felt the magic of Clinton."

He was not trying to be a big man; he like one of us," said Mrs. Kato, 29, a Totyo office worker. "We were surprised that he could answer all of our questions. No Japanese politician could do that,"

It was a remarkable convergence of political cultures on nationally televised. display. Mr. Clinton brought his signature brand of personal banter — he said he loves Kirin beer and sushi — and policy sermonettes to a nation accustomed to austere reserve and little working knowl-

edge of issues from its political leaders.

The audience of 125 people aptly reflected the mixed feelings that many Japanese these days have about the United States and its leader, who is making his first visit here in more than two years.

The first questions were polite to the point of fawning: How did Mr. Clinton handle the pressure of his job? What was his favorite meal that Mrs. Clinton cooked for him? (Chicken enchiladas.) But others revealed a clear undercurrent of grievance: Why was he favoring China over Japan? Why are Americans trying to pry open Japanese agricultural parkets at the expense of the Japanese

cannot avoid on either side of the Pacitic: 'How did you apologize to Mrs. Clinton and Chelsen? I feel I would that. Did they really forgive you, Mr.

The andience gasped at what somefelt was an impertment reference to the controversy over his affair with Monica Lewinsky, a former White House intern, but Mr. Clinton responded curtly: Well, I did it in a direct and straight-

See CLINTON, Page 8

The second second second

A service and the operation





Bill Clinton leading a televised town hall meeting with Japanese citizens in Tokyo on Thursday, the same day the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, was sworn in before the House Judiciary Committee to testify on his call for impeachment over the president's relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

He Charges The 'Search For Truth'

WASHINGTON - Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel who has spent most of this year investigating the Monica Lewinsky scandal, laid out his case for the impeachment of President Bill Clinton on Thursday in a dramatic appearance before the House Judiciary

As the first and probably most important witness in the third presidential

Excerpts from Starr's testimony to

Mr. Starr said Mr. Climon had "thwarted the search for truth," mis-

The hearing also provided Democrats with their first opportunity to confront Mr. Starr, and their criticism was con-

They complained that the 30 minutes given to David Kendall, Mr. Clinton's lawyer, to question Mr. Starr was inadequate. They frequently interrupted Mr. Starr's testimony with points of order, each of which a clearly impatient chairman, Representative Henry Hyde.

Every major television network car-

hour 12-minute presentation live. It was the best opportunity the former federal judge has had to lay out his case against the president and he did so in a clear and methodical, if professorial and sometimes dry, fashion. His present-ation included no new charges against Mr. Clinton, whose presidency had seemed in peril when allegations first

White House intern. Mr. Starr did acknowledge publicly for the first time that his investigation, which began more than four years ago, had not found sufficient evidence to accuse Mr. Clinton of criminal misdoing in the Whitewater land venture, which led to the opening of his inquiry

fice at length against the charges from the White House and Clinton surrogates that his was a politically motivated crusade to

"Any suggestion that the men and women of our office with whom I am privileged to serve enjoyed or relished this investigation is wrong," Mr. Starr

said. "It is nonsense." But Democrats clearly relished their first chance to question the independent counsel. The unrelenting attacks on Mr. Starr and the whole process appeared calculated to underscore for television viewers a sense that the Republican-led impeachment push was partisan and unfair.

Greg Craig, an attorney for Mr. Clinton, said after Mr. Starr's presentation, "The process unfortunately remains bitterly partisan, and in our view pro-

Was Blocked

By Brian Knowlton

Committee.

mpeachment inquiry in U.S. history,

House committee. Page 4.

used "the machinery of government" and thrown up "roadblocks and hurdles" to interfere with the prosecutor's work and that of lawyers in the Panla Jones sexual harassment lawsuit.

stant and piercing from the start.

Republican of Illinois, overruled.

The ranking Democrat on the committee, Representative John Conyers of Michigan, called Mr. Starr a 'federally paid sex policeman" and a "rogue at-

The battle reflected a moment of grave constitutional import, the greatest test of the country's fundamental democratic institutions, but at same time an intensely partisan exercise. The 35-person committee comprises 20 Republicans and 15 Democrats.

ried at least the start of Mr. Starr's 2-

surfaced in January of his intimate re-lationship with Ms. Lewinsky, a former

four years ago, or in the so-called Travelgate or Filegate cases. He also defended himself and his of-

blacken the name of a popular president.

Given "the hurricane-force political winds swirling about us," he said, criticism had been inevitable if, he added,

See PANEL, Page 4

The Prosecutor's 4-Year Pursuit of a 'Pattern'

By Eric Schmitt

WASHINGTON - Late last year, Kenneth Starr wrote a draft impeachment report centering on President Bill Clinton's purported involvement in the complicated Whitewater land deal, but he decided not

The independent counsel shelved the report after concluding that the key witnesses accusing Mr. Clinton of wrongdoing were felons whose credibility was

The description of what brought Mr. Starr and his prosecutors to the brink of a confrontation with the sues" involving one person in the FBI files matter.

president is outlined in the 58-page presentation that the independent counsel delivered Thursday in his high-stakes appearance before the House Judiciary

Committee in its impeachment inquiry. In his statement, Mr. Starr exonerates Mr. Clinton of personal culpability in several other inquiries, including the dismissal of the White House travel office staff and the administration's improper gathering of

hundreds of FBI files on former Republican officials. But the independent counsel makes clear that the travel office investigation "is not terminated," with an announcement of "decisions and actions soon." Mr. Starr also notes there are still "outstanding is-

Mr. Starr's testimony represents the most detailed accounting of his investigations outside the Monica Lewinsky matter since his August 1994 appointment.

In summing up the four-year, \$40 million inquiry. Mr. Starr says, "The pattern of obstruction of justice, false statements and misuse of executive anthority in the Lewinsky investigation did not occur in a vacuum. As the prosecutor sought to show a pattern of

obstruction and stonewalling by the Clinton administration, he emphasized, and reserved his strongest language for, the Arkansas land deal, The basic outlines are well known. Madison Guar-

See PR()BE, Page 4

And one homemaker from Osaka Japan's Liberal Democrats Cut Deal With Defector proved that there are some subjects be.

By Stephanie Strom

TOKYO - Politics took a turn to the usual here Thursday as the governing Liberal Democratic Party opted for political expedience and agreed to form a coalition government with its archenemy, Ichiro Ozawa, and his Liberal Party.

The alliance will strengthen the party's sway in Parliament, mollify its restive hard-liners and give it sure support in upcoming budget debates.

"I am happy that we have agreed to work together on various policies with strong cooperation in the

parliamentary session and on the 1999 budget discussion," said Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi, who decision-making process and waste time," said Takefinalized the deal with Mr. Ozawa after three and a half

hours of talks Thursday afternoon. But the agreement, to be formalized in January, leaves the Liberal Democrats 11 votes short of a simple majority in the Upper House and may drive a wedge between the conservative and progressive

further destabilize the already splintered Liberal Democrats and divert their attention at a time when the country

wings of the party. Some observers said that intraparty bickering might faces its most severe postwar economic downturn.

"I think this will simply complicate the political shi Sasaki, a professor of political science at Tokyo University.

But the currency market took the alliance as a sign that the government would be able to push its agenda more smoothly. The yen gained against the dollar immediately after the coalition was announced.

For Mr. Ozawa, the agreement is a stunning coup. A defector from the Liberal Democrats, he was threatened with political obscurity after his second

See JAPAN, Page 8

Italy and Germany Vow Budget Rigor

Ministers Endorse Stability Pact

By Alan Friedman tional Herold Tribune

ROME - Oskar Lafontaine, Germany's left-leaning. finance minister, took a step toward the political center.
Thursday as he and Italy's treasury minister, Carlo Azeglio.
Ciampi, promised to stick to Europe's Growth and Stability Pact, which requires fiscal rigor among the 11 nations that will adopt the European single currency on Jan. 1.

during his first foreign visit to meet his European counterparts, Mr. Lafontaine distanced himself from suggestions by other European officials that it might be necessary to soften the terms of the Stability Pact in order to

finance job-creation programs.

Mr. Lafomaine still struck familiar themes, however, such as the need to manage currency levels among the euro, the dollar and the yen, and his view that Europe had achieved sufficient price stability to allow for interest rates to drop further.

Mr. Lafonnaine's trip took him from Rome to London where he met Goldon Brown, Britain'a chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Lafonnaine and Mr. Brown announced two interests are to be a sufficient and the sufficient announced two interests.

initiatives as Britain moved to deepen its rapport with Germany's Social Democratic government and increase British influence on European economic policy-making. (Page 15) In an interview here, Mr. Lafontaine also said Germany was "open to discussing pan-European public spending on



Oskar Lafontaine joined his Italian counterpart in Rome on Thursday in pledging fiscal discipline.

investments that would boost growth and employment." Among the ideas Mr. Lafontaine said were worth considering was the issuance of Eurobonds to finance trans-European infrastructure investments similar to those proposed at the

See LAFONTAINE, Page 8

West Bank Transfer Wins Final Approval by Israel

By Deborah Sontag

JERUSALEM - Israel will start transferring 500 square kilometers of the northern West Bank to Palestinian control by early Friday morning after its cabinet gave final clearance on Thursday to the first of three pullbacks under

the new peace plan. The Israeli Army is preparing to with-draw from 7 percent of the West Bank now under joint control and to transfer 2 percent more to Palestinian civil control. It is mostly rural land between Jenin and Nablus, sparsely populated,

with about 30 villages and towns. In Kabatia, one of two large towns there, the mayor, Muhammad Ibrahim Abn Rab, said there were no specific plans yet for a celebration. No one knew what would happen and when it would

happen, he said.
The town of 17,000 residents is already under Palestinian civil control, but the Israelis will turn security control over to the Palestinian police. Since the Israelis do not operate a base there, bowever, there will be no visible with-

drawal. "We won't be able to tell that we are liberated until we get a call from the Palestinian authorities," Mr. Abn Rab said.

"When we get the instructions, then we will hold a rally and decorate the

town. Everyone is waiting for this, wait-

ing to be free of the Israelis. The troops have made their last raids here, their last The governor of the Jenin region. Zuhair Manasra, said that Israeli and Palestinian officials would tour the area

together Friday, marking borders and

deciding where checkpoints will be It will be Israel's first withdrawal from the West Bank since it pulled out of most of the now-divided town of

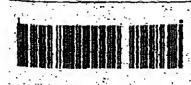
Hebron in early 1997. The cabinet's go-ahead presented a clear sign that the carrying out of the peace plan was under way after weeks

of delay and bellicose rhetoric. The ministers, however, granted only lukewarm backing to the first withdraw-al, the latest indication of Prime Min-

See ISRAEL, Page 8

Page 10. . Page 10. Crossword Pages 12-13. Pages 22-23.

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High Smoking Rate Bodes Ill for China 2,000 a Day Die From Related Diseases; 'Epidemic' May Be Just Taking Off

By Elisabeth Rosenthal and Lawrence K. Altman New York. Times Service

BEIJING - Scientists have calculated for the first time the devastating health toil of eigarente smoking in China and declared the country to be on the verge of a major epidemic of smokingrelated deaths that they said may well kill one in three Chinese men.

In a country where 70 percent of men smoke, there are now 2,000 smokingrelated deaths a day, more than any other country in the world, the researchers said. And that number may increase to 8,000 a day by the middle of the next century.

There is an unprecedented epidemic

of smoking deaths," Chen Zhengming,

a Chinese researcher now based at Oxford University, said at a press con-ference in Beijing. "And China is still in the early stages of the epidemic." In two papers being published Friday in the British Medical Journal, research-

U.S. tobacco pact criticized. Page 3.

ers from China, Britain and the United States outline the emerging epidemic with abundant statistics. For example: In China, middle-aged smokers are three times as likely to get lung cancer as nonsmokers. They are

twice as likely to die of tuberculosis.

Today, more than 12 percent of

deaths among men are related to

smoking, and the number is increasing. The studies, which involved interview-ing more than a million people scattered across China, represent an impressive technical achievement - the largest epidemiological study ever to examine the connection between cigarettes and death.

But more importantly, their authors, mostly doctors from China's prestigious medical academies, hope this bleak and very specific picture of the devastating effect cigarenes are having in their homeland will energize China's nascent anti-smoking campaign, much as the 1964 U.S. Surgeon General's Report opened Americans' eyes to the hazards.
In China, "most people don't under-

See SMOKE, Page 8

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Turkish Legislators Set Confidence Vote

ANKARA (AP) - Parliament decided Thursday to proceed with a confidence vote next week that is expected to topple the Turkish gov-

The vote on whether to hold a vote was 311 to 213, a signal that Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz's minority coalition is unlikely to survive the confidence motion. It will take only 276 votes to topple his government.
Parliament will debate the motion

Monday and vote Wednesday,
The opposition accuses Mr. Yilmaz
of having ties to organized crime and tampering with the privatization of a state bank. He denies the charges. Aukara rebuffs Rome, Page 6.

By Jim Yardley New York Times Service

FEW YORK — They are mothers and grandmothers from Africa, Europe, Asia and the United States, now scattered throughout New York, and every month they meet in a First Avenue conference room across from the United Nations. They call themselves the UN Family Rights Committee, but one woman says "the dumped wives club" is more accurate.

They are estranged or divorced spouses of UN employees, women who followed their husbands to posnings around the world and are chasing after them once again. The agenda at their meetings

Some cannot collect unpaid support orders from U.S. and foreign courts because the United Nations blocks them from doing so. Most are not entitled to a share of their former husbands' pensions, again because of UN policy. One woman, a native of the Middle East, lives in

a Manhattan rooming house. Her husband, a UN diplomat, left her after 40 years of marriage. She won a support order, but knows she may never collect.

Another woman, Audrey Camp Nekunam, a 71-year-old American, has unsuccessfully tried to collect court-ordered support since her husband, a native of Iran, left their Westchester County home 26 years ago.

I came out of the marriage an older woman who is no longer attractive, either for marriage or for jobs, with a resume with nothing I could put on it but housework," Ms. Nekunam said, "As an American. I can sue. I have rights to his pension and his wages. I gave these American rights up when I married a UNer. I became his ward,

Divorce is rarely simple, nor is it always fair, but these women have discovered it can be uniquely devastating for a spouse of a UN staff member. Had Ms. Nekunam's former husband not worked at the United Nations, a court could have garnisheed his wages. But the organization is exempt from legal process and refuses to execute family court orders. so that while most of its divorced employees do pay their family obligations, those who do not enjoy a measure of protection.

Diana Boernstein, a lawyer formerly with the UN legal department who now advises the spouses' group, said the United Nations' immunity privileges were important and "were drawn up for a

"But they were never meant," she said, "to protect diplomats from their own families." UN officials fear that waiving immunity, even in family court cases, could establish a precedent weakening the organization's independence. But they say they have reduced the number of unpaid support cases to a handful by threatening problem employees

with unspecified "disciplinary actions."

The precise number of affected spouses is uncertain, and a subject of heated debate. The family rights committee and its advisers estimate that more than 100, nearly all of them women, live in met-ropolitan New York, and hundreds more are around the world. The anendance at the monthly meetings is 20 to 30.

They say the United Nations' estimate of a handful does not account for women like Ms. Nekunam. whose case is considered closed because her husband is retired.

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Audrey Camp Nekunam in her apartment with the few pieces of furniture her husband left her.

The Clinton administration considers the problent significant enough to apply pressure. In July, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright took the unusual step of sending a diplomatic note urging international organizations to comply voluntarily with family court orders. But a State Department official conceded that the United States' credibility on the issue was compromised by its own failure to

pay its dues to the United Nations. For decades, even some UN officials now concede, the organization essentially ignored divorced spouses. One of the few benefits the United Nations did provide these women struck them as somewhat callous; a one-way airplane ticket home. The spouses lost medical insurance and, in some cases. educational grants for their children,

Foreign spouses were also vulnerable to immigration laws, facing possible deportation within 60 days of divorce, even if they had lived in New York for years and had borne children.

HIS month, a committee of the UN General Assembly has begun considering changes that for the first time could provide a small pension to some divorced spouses. For 20 years, the voting board, currently 28 men and five women, that controls the \$20 billion UN pension fund had rejected all such proposals, even though pensions have become a commonly divided divorce asset.

"The whole rules and regulations of the pension fund." Ms. Boernstein said, "reflect a view of the world that went out after World War II."

But the current proposal contains a catch. A spouse receives a share of the pension only if her former husband, the employee, agrees. Many of these women cannot even find their former hus-

bands, and few believe they would consent.

"That's like asking the American public if they want to pay income taxes," said Suzanne Colt, a lawyer who represents several UN spouses.

Ms. Nekunam lives on the Bronx River Parkway

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Hartsdale until 1972, when she returned home from an art class and discovered her husband and half of their furniture gone. About a year later, she received a document from

Iran notifying her that her husband, Ali Nekunam, had been granted a divorce in Tehran in her absence. The Iranian court had not awarded any support for

The \$200-a-week support order she received from a Westchester family court in 1973 was useless. Within months, her husband transferred to another UN agency in Austria. He never paid spous-

al support, nor did UN officials garnish his pay.

"I had greater hopes for the UN," Ms. Nekunam said. "We joined the UN when it was young, and everybody had high hopes. That's the last organization that should be against women. For heav-

en's sake, what is the UN all about?" With no income or job experience, she rented out the house in Westchester and worked as a textile artist in the garment district, never earning more than \$20,000 a year. Her husband occasionally sent money to their three children while they were in school. Without a pension, she survives today on a \$320 monthly Social Security check and the rent from her house, which she would not disclose.

Her former husband's lawyer in New York, Joseph Marro, called Ms. Nekunam vindictive and said his clien was an elderly retiree living modestly off his pension in Vienna. UN records show that Mr. Nekunam received a lump sum of \$199,362 from his pension upon retiring in 1982. He receives a monthly pension payment of about \$4,700, records show.

Because Mr. Nekunam has lived about \$6,25

Because Mr. Nekunam has lived abroad for 25 years, Mr. Marro contended that New York courts did not have jurtsdiction. Wednesday, Ms. Nekunam learned that a Yonkers Family Court judge had vacated a \$70.000 judgment in her favor on the ground that the court did not have jurisdiction. Mr. Marro also said both UN policy and New York law protected his client's pension from any judgment.

in a rent-stabilized apartment. She lived in a three-bedroom house in the Westchester community of wrong, "he said. "It's a question of what is right or wrong," he said. "It's a question of law."

Uniting Saddam's Foes: U.S. Ponders the Puzzle

By James Risen and Barbara Crossette New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - The Clinton administration, committed to renewed support for Iraqi dissidents, is finding support for Iraqi dissidents, is finding the opposition groups so weak and divided and penetrated by Iraqi agents that it is uncertain how to form a united front capable of toppling Saddam Hussein.

President Bill Clinton caught the dissident groups and even some U.S. officials off-guard last weekend when he cand the heat way to avoid another crisis.

said the best way to avoid another crisis with Iraq was a change in Bagbdad's government. After aborting a planned air strike, he said the administration would do more to support "forces of

change in Iraq."
Mr. Clinton also embraced a new law that many in the Pentagon and his administration had criticized as a waste of money. It calls for Washington to provide \$97 million worth of military equipment and other resources to the dissidents.

Administration officials acknowledged that the president's address suddealy revived a policy that many critics believe had been on the back burner. Indeed, the president's announcement came weeks after the top U.S. commander in the gulf, General Anthony Zinni, dismissed the new law. "I don't think these things have been thought out," he said.

Now the White House and State De-" partment are moving quickly to try to fill in the blanks.

And some of the Iraqi groups themselves have misgivings about new U.S. backing. Leaders of some of the smaller groups say the United States may do-little but revive discredited projects that lack popular support inside Iraq.
Soon after the president's address.

Martin Indyk, an assistant secretary of state, met with Ahmed Chalabi, leader of the Iraqi National Congress, a dissident group that has been out of favor with the administration since its operations in northern Iraq were decimated by the Iraqi Army two years ago.
Mr. Chalabi lobbled Congress to pass
the \$97 million funding plan and now
hopes to push the administration to designate his group as a prime benefi-

ciary.

The administration's support represents a policy reversal, Mr. Chalabi said.

They have opened their arms.

The administration also is accelerating efforts to help unite feuding Kurdish and other groups into a cohesive opposition.

These include an influential Iranian-backed Islamic Shiite group. That group, the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, met privately with Clinion administration officials in Washington three months ago, according to other dissident leaders. It is the largest group among Shiites in southern Iraq and may now be willing to take part in a U.S.-sponsored military action against Mr. Saddam, if Tehran approves.

Meanwhile, more than a dozen op-position groups in London were asked to meet with a British government of-ficial the day after Prime Minister Tony Blair said Britain supported the efforts to undermine Mr. Saddam's regime.

But, altogether, the number of dis-sident groups and their competing interests have hampered Washington and London in their search for a way to pple Mr. Saddam.

Clinton administration officials acknowledged Wednesday that they were not yet ready to decide which groups would receive U.S. support, and whether any would receive arms. Under the terms of the law, called the Iraq Liberation Act, the president has until the end of January to announce which groups will receive U.S. support.

Republicans in Congress say they are not convinced that the White Honse is serious. "They have taken a step toward support for the Iraq Liberation Act. but I don't see that they bave really made a commitment to overthrow Saddam, said a senior Republican Senate aide:

'And that's the purpose of the act.'

Some Iraqi dissident groups, which are divided across ethnic and sectarian lines, worry about the act. and Iraqi that tentions, saying that any plan that provides support for the Iraqi National Congress will have little support inside the country.

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■ Weapon Inspections Continue

UN disarmament experts pressed ahead with weapons inspections on Thursday as Iraq scoffed at President Clinton's calls for the overthrow of Mr. Saddam, Agence France-Presse reported from Baghdad.

I'M weapons inspectors fanned out for

UN weapons inspectors fanned out for a second day Thursday to test pledges of cooperation given by Mr. Saddam that prompted Mr. Clinton to abort massive

military strikes against Iraq. Iraq disclosed, meanwhile, that Foreign Minister Mohammad Said Sahhaf had sent a letter to the UN secretary. general, Kofi Annan, on Tuesday re-newing calls for an end to surveillance flights by American U-2 planes over its territory. Mr. Sahhaf recalled that Bagh dad had asked UN weapons inspect to use "Iraqi planes and not foreign planes to rule out any chance these aircraft are used to undermine Iraq's

official Iraqi newspapers, such as Ath Thawra, slarumed Mr. Clinton on Thursday for openly supporting opposition to Mr. Saddam, "Clinton is betting today on a bunch of insignificant materials that the Iraqi neonle have mercenaries that the Iraqi people have rejected," the paper said.

A U.S. Embassy To Close 3 Days

The Associated Press

BANGKOK — The U.S. Embassy in Bangkok will be closed for three days, starting Friday, because of security concerns, an embassy spokesman said Thursday.

He declined to discuss whether there was a specific threat against the embassy, but said that the clos-ing was related to matters discussed in-a statement by the State De-

partment on Nov. 12.
That public warning said that "the potential for retaliatory acts against Americans and American interests overseas continues to exist? because of the dispute with Traq over United Nations weapons inspections as well as the arrests of suspects in the bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa on Aug.

It also warned of continuing threats by terrorists, including Osama bin Laden, who was indicted for the embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania.

The decision to close the embassy in Thailand was a local initiative in response to the security threat and not a worldwide direct-

ive, said the spokesman.

He said he did not know if other U.S. embassies were planning to

TRAVEL UPDATE

Rail Workers in EU to Strike Monday

BRUSSELS (AP) — Railroad workers plan to paralyze train traffic in six European Union nations Monday to protest liberalization plans, but trade union differences stand in the way of an EU-wide rail strike.

Train traffic is expected to come to a halt in France, Spain, Belgium, Portugal, Greece and Luxembourg. Unions will hand out leaflets to commuters in Germany. Britain. Austria and the Netherlands in a hid to

commuters in Germany. Britain. Austria and the Netherlands in a nid to stop plans to further privatize the sector.

The EU's Executive Commission already has a blueprint to increase liberalization in the freight sector from 5 percent to 25 percent to try to increase the efficiency of Europe's dense railroad network.

For the unions, further liberalization will threaten the jobs of the 965,000 railroad workers in the EU and attack the guarantee that minimum rail

services will continue to be delivered.

own versions will be available from Jan. 1.

Air France flights virtually returned to normal Thursday after a two-day strike by cabin crew that forced the cancellation of nearly half the airline's services. Passengers can consult a web site. www.dirfrance.fr. for details

Visa International announced Thursday it was inaugurating checks in euros, which can be used in stores that set out prices in the European single currency. American Express and Thomas Cook have already said their

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WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by AccuWeather

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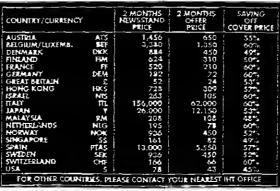
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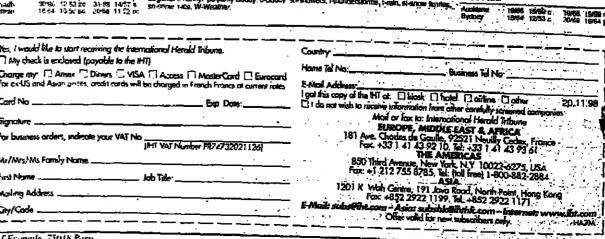


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THE AMERICAS

Catholics Bring Abortion Debate to the Fore

By Hanna Rosin and Thomas B. Edsalf

ica's top Roman Catholic strongly opposed abortion, leaders have started an agmany have been reluctant to gressive campaign to lobby impose their views in a public against abortion and to mo arena. Not since the 1970s bilize parishes across the have they vowed as a group to country into a powerful new so directly and visibly influvoting bloc against candidates ence politicians and voters on who support abortion rights. - such a crucial issue.

The bold assertion Wed- Their decision means that

Washington Pool Service in the church's political ac-divism. While the church's abortion debates. Many abor-tivism. While the church's don-rights advocates said they WASHINGTON—Amer-400 U.S. bishops have always feared the bishops' consider-**Bble** influence could reinstitute a litratis test for candidates and recharge the abortion wars.

The resolution, passed Wednesday by a vote of 217 to 30 at the semiannual meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. urges priests to target CBtholic politicians in particular, relentlessly imploring those who do not oppose abortion to rethink their views.

The resolution calls for the

bishops to request private meetings with elected officials and political candidates and write letters until they change their minds. If necessary, it urges the bishops to go public with their criticism, but it stops short of calling for re-calcinant public officials to be

The paper also asks priests to tell their congregations to tion on abortion as a first pri-

nesday by the country's Cath- the bishops could emerge into all other social justice con-olic bishops marks a new era a powerful new force in the cerns that the church has long Cardinal Bernard Law espoused, on such matters as welfare, poverty, euthanasia or assisted suicide.

Being "right" on those is-sues, the statement says, "can never excuse a wrong choice regarding direct attacks on in-nocent human life."

as well as a few dissenting bisbops, criticized the decision. At a ome when Catholics are sharply divided in their views on abortion, the bishops' resolution could be construed as an attempt to intimidate those who don't follow the church's teachings. And given how soundly many Americans reject the Christian right's political influence, according to some opponents, voters might resect another moral lecture.

"It's B question of strategy," said Howard Hubbard, a hisbop in Albany.
"We run the risk of creating another and-Catholic backlash, of creating the impres-sion that the Catholic bishops ority when casting a ballot, poliocian must vote. From the vation is his own pers and to place this issue above public's point of view, it private matter." he said.

Cardinal Bernard Law of Massachusetts, who helped draft the document, singled out his home senators as targets for the drive.

"Both senators in my state are Catholic and wrong in the way they approach abor-tion, he said, referring to Democrats Edward Kennedy and John Kerry, "The gov-ernor of the state is from a Abortion rights advocates, different party and he is wrong," he said of Paul Cel-lucci. "Only I am right." His message met with im-

mediate resistance, however. "Senator Kennedy has great respect for Cardinal Law and the Catholic Conference, but he continues to support a woman's right to choose, said a Kennedy spokesman. Representative

Lampson, Democrat of Texas, a Catholic who generally favors abortion rights but opposes "partial-birth" abortion, is "a devout Catholic who takes his faith seriously," a spokesman said sion that the Catholic bishops

But abortion "is a personal are trying to dictate how B matter and bis personal salpoliocian must vote. From the vation is his own personal,

Glasgow to Return a Sioux Relic



Richard LeBeau, a Lakota Sioux representative, ate to someone who is not a viewing the Ghost Dance shirt Thursday in Glasgow. Native American.

Rewers

LONDON — Councillors in the Scottish city of Glasgow decided Thursday that a sacred Sioux Indian shirt, belonging to a warrior killed more than 100 years ago, should be returned to its original owners.

The "Ghost Dance" shirt belonged to a Lakota Sioux killed by the U.S. Cavalry in the 1890 massacre of more than 150 indians at Wounded Knee. South Dakota. It bears symbols intended to protect the wearer from the bullets of the U.S. Army.

It has been in a Glasgow museum since its purchase in 1892 from a member of Buffalo Bill' Cody's traveling Wild West Show.

The Lakota learned of the shirt in 1994 when a va-cationing Native American lawyer, John Earl, saw it.
"My heart stopped," he recalled Thursday in Glasgow, "It is of a value that is very difficult to communic-

MIDDLE EAST

AL JUBAIL AMMAN BAHRAIN

BEIRUT CAIRO

WASHINGTON — Cigarette makers stand to gain more from their proposed \$206 billion tobacco settlement than was initially apparent prince any apparent prince and apparent prince any apparent prince any apparent prince and appare Washington Post Service. initially apparent, critics say, arguing that the deal could provide the industry with protection from a wide array of state consider a candidate's posilawsuits and from the financial brunt of any future-federal. Critics found what they called loopholes and unexpected

By Saundra Torry

Smoke and Demurrers

Critics Say Proposed Settlement

Hides Bonuses for Tobacco Firms

industry benefits in the complex agreement, which would shut down the biggest legal threat the industry has ever faced. Still,

the deal seemed to be moving steadily toward approval, with at least 16 states having signed on.

Wall Street analysts have proclaimed the deal favorable for leading cigarette makers, saying that it calls for lower up-front payments by the industry than last year's failed national deal, boon to companies because it gives them more time to

recoup the costs. Stocks of the nation's two largest cigarette makers, Philip Morris Cos. and R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., have climbed steadily since July 9, the eve of the first major news reports that the companies were trying to craft a multistate settlement with their adversaries, according to Bonnie Zoller, a tobacco

analyst at Credit Suisse First Boston.

Oo Thursday afternoon, Philip Mortis stock was trading at \$55.375, up 68.75 cents, and RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp., Reynolds's parent, stood at \$30.375, up 56.25 cents. Brown & Williamsoo Tobacco Corp., and Lorillard Inc. are also par-

The deal, Miss Zoller said, would "eliminate 70 percent of the litigation risk facing the industry" by settling about 36

Meanwhile, critics zeroed in on the deal's complex provisions, saying that the industry, which last year appeared at the mercy of its adversaries; had oow crafted an ingenious bargain to end not only a lawsuit avalanche but buy future political and legal protection.

"It is another one of those sleight-of-hand deals," said Mary Aronson, a tobacco liogatioo analyst in Washington. The industry is getting a lot more than anyone bargained

Chief among the industry's boons, some critics said, is a provision that would grant the industry credit on the money it ays states, if Congress in the next four years passes a cigarette tax and sends some of it to states for tobacco cootrol or certain other uses. If Congress, for instance, passed a cigarette tax, then sent the money to states for children's health care, the industry could subtract those taxes from its payments to the

Senator Edward Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, called the provision a "devious and cynical attempt by the tobacco companies to block congressional action on major public health issues," one that should not be in a state

Scott Williams, a spokesman for the tobacco industry. defended the provision. It would not be appropriate or fair, he said, for the states to receive buge payments from the industry first through the settlement and then through a federal tax. Other critics said the deal would bar a broad range of future

claims, including secondhand smoke cases, that might be brought by state or local officials. In addition, health advocates said, the deal does not contain several potent tobacco-control measures, such as "lookbacks," which would impose financial penalties if youth smoking rates do not decline.

Away From Politics

• Flames fed by specially treated timbers roared through Steams Wharf in Santa Barbara, California, the city's chief tourist attraction, destroying three businesses and lighting up the waterfront sky.

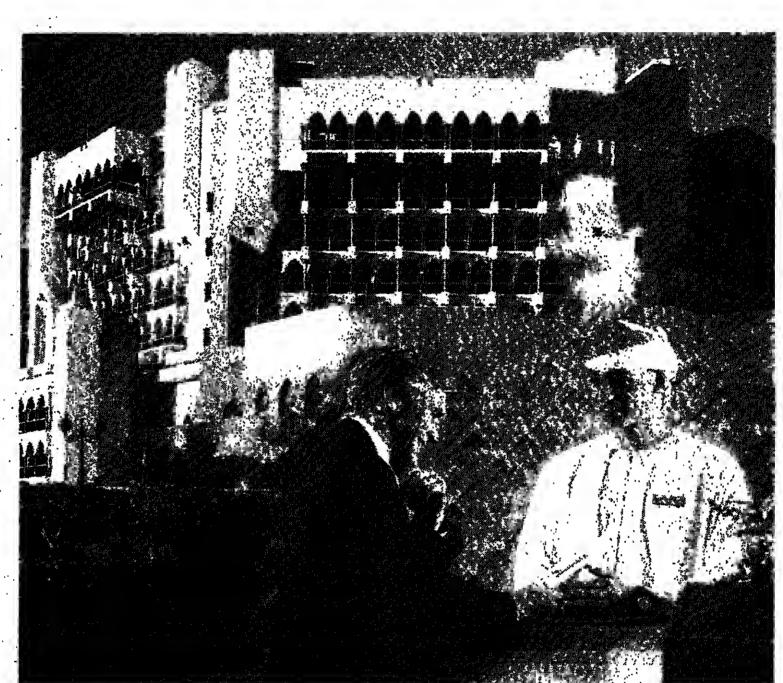
· A mother worried that powerful AIDS drugs might kill her HIV-infected 4-year-old boy can continue to refuse treatment for him, the Supreme Court of Maine ruled. (AP) Nine leaders of the anti-government Montans Freemen were convicted of fraud and armed robbery at their second

trial. The jury returned the verdicts after two days of deliberations, concluding a three-week trial. A series of sweeping arches would carry a new Woodrow Wilson Bridge across the Potomac River in the design for a

architectural experts in Maryland and Virginia.

the replacement span chosen by a panel of officials and





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*FORUM HOTEL

hour presentation Thursday in Washington by the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, to the House Judiciary Committee, which is holding inquiries into deposition on Jan. 17, 1998. the possible impeachment of President Bill Clinton.

First. The evidence suggests that the president made a series of premeditated insky. Those acts constitute a pattern of false statements under oath in his civil obstruction.

Second. The evidence suggests that the president engaged in a pattern of As our referral explains, the evidence behavior during the Jones lingation to suggests that the president made false thwart the judicial process. The presstatements under oath and otherwise ident reached an agreement with Ms. thwarted the search for truth in the Jooes Lewinsky that each would make false v. Clinton case. The evidence further statements under oath. He provided job suggests that the president made false assistance to Ms. Lewinsky at a time statements under oath to the grand jury when the Jones case was proceeding and on Aug. 17. The evidence suggests that Ms. Lewinsky's truthful testimony

had been subpoenaed from Ms. Lew-

Third. The evidence suggests that the president participated in a scheme at his occasions when he denied a relationship deposition in which his attorney, in his presence, deceived a United States district judge in an effort to cut off questioning about Ms. Lewinsky.

tigation had become public, the president made false statements to his cabFifth. The evidence suggests that the

president, acting in a premeditated and calculated fashion, deceived the American people on Jan. 26 and on other with Ms. Lewinsky.

Sixth. The evidence suggests that the president, after the criminal investigation became public, made faise state-Fourth. The evidence suggests that on ments to bis aides and concocted false Jan. 23, 1998, after the criminal invesalibis that these government employees repeated to the grand jury.

Seventh. The president refused six

executive branch employees to cooperate with criminal investigations.

Eighth. The president and his adminemmental privileges to conceal relevant Currie, a government employee, to facilinate and conceal the relationship with privilege assertions were legally baseless. They delayed and impeded the in-

vestigation.

Ninth. The president made false statements under oath to the grand jury on

Ang. 17, 1998.
Tenth. The evidence suggests that the inet and used his cahinet as unwitting invitations to testify before the grand president deceived the American people

'We did in fact use a traditional tech-

nique," he said, but he denied mistreat-ing her or holding her against her will. Asked why he did not inform the

Justice Department, when he first sought

authorization to extend his investigation

had had talks with Paula Jones's lawyers, Mr. Starr said it "did not occur" to

him that those contacts could be seen as a conflict of interest. Mrs. Jones's at-

torneys knew about the Lewinsky relationship when they questioned Mr.

Clinton under oath on Jan. 17; and some Democrats have accused Mr. Starr of

resentative William Delahunt, Demo-

crat of Massachusetts, "this cannot be a

Mr. Hyde answered that "the president

present us with his version of the facts" and to question any further witnesses.

Democrats on the committee sought to pass a motion to ensure that the pres-

ident's counsel would have as much time

as they wanted. The majority Repub-

lican unanimously opposed it.
When Mr. Hyde told one Democratie

member, Representative Melvin Watt of

North Carolina, that he was disrupting

never agreed on what it considers im-

peachable conduct. The constitution

refers to "treason, bribery and other

Mr. Starr, who has been bitterly at-

tacked by Clinton surrogates like James

Carville, told the committee almost

plaintively: "I'm not a man of politics.

of public relations or of polls, which I

easy to forget the widespread sense that,

after Republicans' setbacks in Nov. 3 elections, Mr. Clinton faces almost no

risk of being both impeached by the House and convicted by the Senate.

If the committee votes for articles of

mpeachment, a simple majority of the

full House would have to do so too.

Republicans have an 11-seat majority in

the next House, hat some Republican

members have expressed doubts about

to vote to convict the president, which

would require all 55 Republicans and 12

defecting Democrats to join that vote.

Sixty-seven senators would then have

voting to impeach.

The drama of the proceedings made it

suppose is patently obvious by now."

high crimes and misdemeanors."

satisfactory response."

word of it."

the misuse of presidential authority oc-curred in the following 10 ways:

First, The evidence suggests that the

would have been harmful. He engaged in an apparent scheme to conceal gifts that had been subposed from Ms. I evidence suggests that the sources and prerogatives to pursue his relationship. The evidence suggests that the president used his secretary, Betty

> Ms. Lewinsky.
>
> The president used White House aides and the United States ambassador to the United Nations in his effort to find Ms.

Lewinsky a job at a time when it was foreseeable, even likely, that she would be a witness in the Jones case. And the president used a government attorney. Bruce Lindsey, to assist his personal legal defense during the Jones case. In short, the evidence suggests that the president repeatedly used the machinery of government and the powers of h

high office to conceal his relationship, is conceal the relationship from the American people, from the judicial process in the Jones case, and from the grand

Relationship Not on Trial

I want to emphasize that our referral never suggests that the relationship be-tween the president and Ms. Lewinsky in and of itself could be a high crime or misdemeanor. The referral is instead about obstruction of justice, lying under oath, tampering with witnesses, and the misuse of power.

Paula Jones, a former Arkansas state employee, filed a federal sexual harassment suit against President Clinton in 1994. The president denied those allegations. The president attempted to delay the trial, or more broadly the proceed. ings, until his presidency had conclude The president claimed a temporary presidential immunity from civil suit. The Supreme Court rejected the president's nstitutional claim of immunity — and did so by a nine to zero vote.

The idea was simple and powerful: No one is above the law. The Supreme Court has emphatically and repeatedly rejected the notion that there is ever-a privilege to to include the Lewinsky matter, that he

The key point about the president's conduct is this. On at least six different occasions, from Dec. 17, 1997, through Ang. 17, 1998, the president bad to make a decision. He could choose truth, or he could choose deception. On all six occasions the president choose deception.

could choose deception. On all six oc-casions, the president chose deception, a pattern of calculated behavior over a span of months.

On Dec. 5: 1997, Ms. Jones's at-torneys identified Ms. Lewinsky as a potential witness. Within a day, the pres-ident learned that Ms. Lewinsky's name "setting up" the president.
The independent counsel remained calm through the often-aggressive questioning about his report, but at one time stiffly declared, "I stand behind each Democrats bickered with Mr. Hyde al every opportunity. They insisted that the this, the president faced his first critical decision. Would he and Monica Lew not impeachable and said that Mr. Clinnot impeachable and said that Mr. Clinton's lawyers were not being given a fair ship? Or would they provide false information, not just to a spouse or to loved
Chair doesn't intend to bind and gag ones, bis unifer out in a court of law?
anybody—anybody."

Eleven months ago, the president made allegations against the president were

his decision. At approximately 2 A.M. on Dec. 17, 1997, he called Ms. Lewinsky at her Watergate apartment and told her that she was on the wimess list.
The president did not explicitly in-

has a standing invitation to come before. struct Ms: Lewinsky to lie. He did not this committee for any amount of time and have to. Starting with this conversation, present us with his version of the facts" the president and Ms. Lewinsky understood, according to Ms. Lewinsky, that they were both going to make false statements under oath.

An Effort to Thwart Justice

At that moment, the president's inci-timate relationship with a subordinal employee was transformed — it was transformed into an unlawful effort to the proceedings, Mr. Watt replied testily, "We're disrupting a railroad." The House Judiciary Committee has thwart the indicial process. This was no longer an issue of private conduct.

Major decisions during the Lewinsky investigation have not been easy. And given the burricane-force political winds swirling about us, we were well aware that, no matter what decision we made, criticism would come from somewhere. Some then suggested that the report we submitted to Congress was too thorough. I want to be clear that the public disclosure or nondisclosure of the referral and the backup materials was a decision our office did not make, and lawfully could not make. We respectfully but firmly reject the notion that our office

was trying to inflame the public.
We are professionals, and we was trying to get the relevant facts, the full story, to the House of Representatives. That was our task. And that is what we did.

Mr. Chairman, members, I revere the law. I am proud of what we have accomplished. We were assigned a difficult joh. We have done it to the best of our abilities. We have tried to be both fair and thorough. I thank the chairman. I thank the committee, and the American people for their attention.

PANEL: Starr's Case Against the President

Continued from Page 1

foundly unfair, to the president." Mr. Starr summarized the allegations that have emerged in his inquiry into the

Lewinsky scandal this way:

'The evidence,' he said, 'suggests that the president repeatedly used the machinery of government and the powers of his high office to conceal his relationship, to conceal the relationship from the American people, from the judicial process in the Jones case and

from the grand jury.

Mr. Starr outlined evidence that has become familiar in the months since Ms. Lewinsky's name came to public attention in Jan, 21 newspaper articles. The allegations center on Mr. Clinton's attempts to conceal his involvement with her during the Paula Jones sexual harassment lawsuit and the criminal investigation headed by Mr. Start.

Mr. Starr dismissed the argumeot, made by Mr. Clinton's lawyers and supporters that an investigation of lies about private sexual conduct should oever have been questioned by a public pros-ecutor. Obstruction of the courts and judicial system, he said, was "not a

'No one is entitled to lie under oath simply because he or she does not like the Barney Frank of Massachusetts, sharply

POLITICAL NOTES

The Bush Dynasty

Passes Out Advice

NEW ORLEANS - In their de-

but appearance as heirs to the latest

American political dynasty, Gov-

ernor George W. Bush of Texas and

his younger brother, Jeb Bush, the

governor-elect of Florida, stepped

forward as models for what they

described as a new "compassionate

As Republicans lament and point fingers over their party's discour-

aging performance in midterm elec-

tions, the sons of former President

George Bush are savoring their elec-

toral victories. "A conservative

philosophy can extend its message

across demographic lines," said the

Texas governor, who won impressive support from Hispanics. "A

conservative philosopby is one that

can attract Hispanics if properly po-

sitioned, he said at a joint news

conference with his brother at the

Republican Governors Association's

convention. "And the Republican

Party needs to do just that."

Jeb Bush said, "It's the style of

governance, George's case and, the

style of campaigning in my case, that might be a good lesson." (NYT)

Republicans Losing

Their Cash Machine

NEW YORK --- With the House

speaker, Newt Gingrich, stepping

down from Congress, the Repub-

lican Party is losing its top fund-

raiser, a man who, by party ac-

counts, raised more than \$60 mil-

lion for office-seekers this year and

masterminded a strategy that helped

Republicans take over Congress in

1994 and retain control ever since.

No one in the party leadership is

ready to step into this role, and there

hard to replace.'

conservatism."

questions or because be believes the case

guestions or because be believes the case is frivolous or that it is financially motivated or politically motivated," he said.

The hearing was held in the same dark-paneled room in the Rayburn Office Building where a 1974 Judiciary Committee weighed the impeachment of President Richard Nixon, who uldistant president from office. The only mately resigned from office. The only other presidential impeachment hearings in history were against President
Andrew Johnson, who was impeached
or charged by the House — but narrowly escaped conviction by the Senate

more than a century ago.

The minority Democrats on the committee ceaselessly criticized Mr. Starr and his motives. Mr. Conyers suggested that Mr. Starr had ethical conflicts, including the fact that he worked for a law firm that represented tobacco industry clients. Representative Barney Frank, center, talking with a fellow Democrat, Senator-elect Charles Schumer, right, which oppose Mr. Clinton's efforts to and Abbe Lowell, minority counsel, left, during the House Judiciary Committee's inquiry Thursday. reduce smoking among young people.

While an independent counsel can and should pursue a case with vigor,"
Mr. Conyers said, "I and many others
believe that Mr. Starr has crossed the line into obsession."

Mr. Starr appeared tense during Mr. Conyer's comments, but did not address them directly. Another Democranic member, Rep.

Whitewater Revisited

Continued from Page 1

anty Savings & Loan, a Little Rock entity

run hy the Clintons' business partners, James McDougal and his then-wife, Susan, collapsed, Hillary Rodham Clin-

ton performed legal work in the 1980s for Madison, which Mr. Starr called a "meta-

"Madison Guaranty was a disaster."

he said. "It gambled with investments,

cooked the books and ultimately bilked

phor" for the savings and loan crisis.

the taxpayers of the United States.'

PROBE:

criticized Mr. Starr for waiting until after the Nov. 3 election to announce that he had been unable to link Mr. Clinton to the Mr. Starr responded that the "FBI discouraged her from calling a lawyer, and threatened her with a lengthy prison sentence if she did not cooperate." any criminal wrongdoing in the Filegate or Travelgate allegations.

"You tell us that months ago, you concluded that the president wasn't insome Republicans, which were improp-erly found in the White House, or in the bours on Jan. 16 at a hotel in Virginia.

files and travel office matter were not relevant" to efforts to demonstrate im-

Representative Barney Frank, center, talking with a fellow Democrat, Senator-elect Charles Schumer, right,

peachable offenses.

He also defended the actions of FBI

volved in the FBI files," including files on agents and prosecutors from his team when they detained Ms. Lewinsky for 10



Representative Henry Hyde, right, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, conferring with aides Thursday at the impeachment hearings.

Mr. Starr's inquiry focused on whether Madison money had been used illegally to help business and political figures in went to what the independent counsel called Susan McDougal's "make-believe" company, Master Marketing, and \$50,000 of that benefited Whitewater.

Mr. Starr also says that Mr. Clinton encouraged Mrs. McDougal to stonewall. The prosecutor refers to a September 1996 interview Mr. Clinton gave to PBS, in which be said, "There's a lot of evidence to support" various charges that Mrs. McDougal bad made against Mr. Starr's office. But Mr. Clinton cited no evidence.

"Essentially," Mr. Starr says, "the president of the United States, the chief executive, sided with a convicted felon against the United States, as represented by United States District Judge Susan Webber Wright, the United States Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit and the Office of the independent Counsel."

a partner. Billing records related to her work at the firm were subpoenzed, but for two years could not be found. They had apparently disappeared in the White House residence. Two years later the records mysteriously turned up.

"After a thorough investigation, we have found no explanation how the billing records got where they were or why they were not discovered and produced earlier," Mr. Starr says in his testimony. "It remains a mystery. Mr. Starr says that Webster Hubbell,

water inquiry centered on the work done a top official at the Justice Department, and other charges.

for Madison in 1985 and 1986 by the might have additional information. Rose Law Firm, where Mrs. Clinton was Just as Mr. Huhbell became the focus. of Mr. Starr's inquiry, after he had resigned his government position, he received payments totaling \$550,000 from several companies and individuals. Many were campaign donors.

Most of this \$550,000 was given to Mr. Hubbell for little or no work," Mr. Starr says in his statement. "This rush of generosity obviously gives rise to an inference that the money was essentially a gift. And if it was a gift, why was it a

Mr. Starr indicted Mr. Hubbell last An offshoot of the original White- a partner at the Rose Law Firm, and later week on 15 counts of false statements

Patrick Clancy, Eldest of Singing Brothers, Dies

By Jon Pareles New York Times Service

Patrick Clancy, 76, who helped start a folk revival as a founding member of the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem, died of cancer on Nov. 11 in Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary, Ireland.

are no obvious candidates in the As the eldest of the Clancy Brothers, wings as the party prepares for the 2000 presidential election. "You Mr. Clancy toured the world singing Irish songs, often with thousands of are losing someone who has probaudience members singing along. Alably raised, over the last four years, conservatively, a quarter of a billion though the Clancy Brothers got started as Irish expatriates in New York, where dollars for the party," said Ralph Reed, a Republican strategist based they were part of the Greenwich Village in Atlanta, "and those things are folk revival of the 1950s and 60s, the group's rowdy, good-humored perfor-mances created an enduring image of lage, they acted in and produced off-following in the United States. group's rowdy, good-humored perfor-

Irish tradition and spurred a rediscovery Broadway plays, including Sean O'Caof folk styles back home in Ireland. Mr. Clancy also started a folk-music label, Tradition, that documented Appalachian music, blues, Celuc and ethnic music.

rural Tipperary, where he and his brothers soaked up traditional music. During World War II, he went to England to join the Royal Air Force and worked as an airplane mechanic in England and India. After the war, he and his brother, Tom, who had sung pop music in Ireland, came to the United States. They worked at a brewery in Newark, New Jersey, started recording for Traditioo in 1959. before moving to New York.

sey's "Plough and Stars" at the Cherry Lane Theater.

In the early 1950s, Patrick Clancy assembled Irish music for Folkways Re-Mr. Clancy was born in Carrick, in cords and the early Elektra label. He trail Tipperary, where he and his broth-started the Tradition label in 1956. His brother Liam arrived in the United States that year, collecting Appalachian songs and also settling in New York. The three hrothers began singing Irish songs at parties and quickly developing a local following. They were joined by another trish expatriate, Tommy Makem, and

A 1961 appearance on "The Ed Sul-

AMERICAN TOPICS

Hats for Cowboys With Deep Saddlebags

The cowboy hat, now an internationally recognized symbol of America's Old West, started out as a joke.

The Philadelphia hatter John Sietson had gone West on a hunting trip. He showed his companions that he could make cloth out of fur without weaving. For a laugh, he shaped the resulting felt into a hat with a colossal brim. Its practicality in protecting a man from the hot Western sun was immediately clear, and Stetson sold the hat to a horseman. That, reports the Los Angeles Times, was in 1865.

These days Ritch Rand, who recounts that history in "The Cowboy Hat Book," is one of the great custom makers of cowboy hats. At his shop in Billings, Montana, he and six hatters work against a 12-week backlog to supply cowboys, cowgirls, actors, guides, adventurers and city slickers with fur felt hats of extraordinary quality; hats that — thanks to an old French machine called the conformation — fit every bump or curve of the head; hats shaped with hot, century-old irons; hats of fine beaver fur that take a full day to make.

American cowhands traditionally invested their money in things they could use and carry with them - boots. saddles, buckles. They are still willing to spend a week's pay or more for a good hat. For a Rand hat, that means about \$300. For an extra \$40, a hat will be "distressed," to look as if it has spent months on a bot, dusty trail — a look more popular in urban California than among Montanans.

There is an old cowboy put down about someone being all hat and no cattle. But the right hat, at least, is a start.

Short Takes

In years gone by, one-room schoolhouses were common in small-town America, serving as civic institutions that educated children and bound together residents. On Bois Blanc Island, Michigan, the Pines School, with its bell tower and red chapboard siding, is a beloved part of life on an island in northern Lake Huron that is known for isolation and long winters. Now locals are struggling to keep it going. The problem. The New York Times explains, stems from change in the way Michigan schools are financed. Rather than basing funding on property taxes. which caused serious inequalities between school systems. the state increased sales taxes and began compensating schools depending on the number of students. The Pines School has four. Locals are now wrangling with the state for some sort of rescue. "Without a school," said William Westcott, the township supervisor, we stand no opportunity to attract young people.

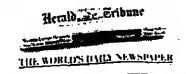
Brian Knowlfon

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DESTINATION GREECE DOORWAY TO GASTRONOMY

NATIONAL CUISINE IS HEALTHY AND DELICIOUS

Organically produced olive oil, honey, finit and vegetables form the basis of Greek cuisine — and of a healthy diet. rith the realization immemorial, adding. "New them in large, empty Coca- both 1997 and 1998 were Cretan olive oil is actually





The production of organic truits and vegetables - the staples of the Mediterranean diet - in many parts of Greece attracts tourists and encourages exports of these fresh and delicious products. Specially organized tours allow visitors to discover how to prepare wonderful Greek dishes in a beautiful; authentic setting.



"DESTINATION GREECE: DOORWAY TO GASTRONOMY?" was produced in its entirety by the Advertising Department of the International Herald Tribune. WRITER: John Rigos in Athens. PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Bill Mahder.

that their cooking is not only delicious, but also offers all the recognized health benefits of the Mediterranean diet, Greeks are starting to think of their national cuisinc as an added

attraction for foreign tourists. "Tourism is one of our main industries, since our country is known for its natural beauty and exceptional climate. But we must also profit from the healthy Greek diet by teaching foreign visitors the benefits of fresh. tasty produce," says Yannis Tzen, president and chairman of the Hellenic Foreign Trade Board.

Mr. Tzen also believes that in the same way food pro- the traditional anise-flavored motes tourism, tourism can ouzo liqueur. promote exports of Greek or-

gante produce. Featuring vegetable oils. such as olive and sunflower, a wide variety of seafood, fresh vegetables and fruit, the prevent early heart attacks.

During a visit to Greece in the 1950s, President Eisenhower's personal physician, the cardiologist Dr. White said, "Cretan olive oil is the best protection against heart

Today, heart specialists continue to recognize the olives for the entire year. benefits of the Mediterranean "I also like to make so diet, while oncologists claim vegetables, olive oil and grains prevent the development of colon cancer.

George Diamantopoulos. director of one of the clinics tersweet taste," she adds. olive oil, vegetables and fish an organic fruit and vege-Greek cooking since time by slashing them and putting says that this is possible since presses and see how pure ance.

them if they want to remain healthy and strong."

Dr. Diamantopoulos even grow on a few olive trees a portion of the olives he surrounding his suburban collects from his 50 trees to surrounding his suburban

And he is not the only one. Today, many residents gather olives from the trees planted along the sidewalks of most Athenian suburbs.

Krina Jaharescu, a recent Athens, has already cured her ist, and also has export poolives for this year. She proudly offers them to visitors as hors d'oeuvres with

"You slash them on the side, put them into water for about two weeks to lose their These products form the bitterness and then for three main staples of the Medidays in a salt solution, and they are ready to cat," she Greek diet has long been rec- says. "If you want them to be ognized as a natural way to preserved for a long time, you leave them in a salt solu-

olive oil." American resident of Greece, ganic products." adds fennel and oregano to the solution of vinegar, lemon slices and olive oil in which she preserves her

also like to make some thrumbes, wrinkled olives which are mixed with coarse sea salt and dried in the sun. They turn out looking like large currants and have a bit-

Nikos Papaioannou, a rcstate hospitals, says grains, tired general who cultivates terests," he adds. table garden, cures his olives eral secretary of tourism, ists the opportunity to visit oil of attaining spiritual bal-

olive oil. Ripe olives are and 1999 will be even better ready to eat in two months, while green ones require five

The 2004 Olympics will while green ones require five has a small patch of vege- months. "But they are the tables in his home garden and best." he says. He also makes cures his own olives, which his own olive oil by bringing the oil press.

Organically grown Mr. Tzen believes that the

production of organic fruits and vegetables practiced in many parts of Greece is an Romanian resident of added attraction for the touriential.

"Our country has unlimproducts distinguished for and Greek organic foods. their superiority, enjoyable taste and innate beauty. trition which this diet entails," he says.

tion, vinegar or even pure Greece is just beginning to "hamionize with ecological Beth Arnold, a long-time realities and to promote or-

The main ingredients of the Mediterranean diet, besides olive oil, are honey, olives and a wide variety of fruit and vegetables, now also organically produced in Greece.

"I do not think that this information is known to the degree that it should be in join forces in furthering our such produce in hotels. country's economic in-

generations have to stick to Cola bottles covered with good years for Greek tourism extracted. Selected taxems

country and for Greek tour- mainland Greece and on othism," he says.

opportunity for our sector, the tourists who will become but they also call for the mobilization of every one of our and spread of organic professionals in order to meet products in their respective the challenge presented by this great event."

The Greek Culinary Academy, the Greek Tourism Board and the Hellenic as other agencies, have foreign visitors an opportu-Foreign Trade Board, as well launched a pilot project on the island of Crete aimed at tivation of natural organic promoting Cretan cuisine trade possibilities.

According to Mr. Tzen. Crete was chosen because it attracts a large number of tourists and has the longest terranean dict, and thus meet tourist season of the entire his or her vacation in Greece the standards of healthy nu- country, thanks to its mild climate. In addition, it produces large quantities of or-Mr. Tzen points out that ganic vegetables. The project dividual samples of such allows foreign tourists to take classes on Cretan cuisine tising organic produce.

The role of organically grown products in healthy marketing of organic produce in ports, airports and railway stations. Gastronomic programs can be promoted through the cooperation of

The same agencies will organize tours of olive oil pro-

Similar programs will be be a significant event for our applied in other areas of er islands. Both tourism and "The Games are a unique trade will benefit, thanks to pioneers in the promotion

Mr. Tzen also believes that his agency, together with the Greek Tourism Board, can both promote the use of organic produce and also give nity to discover Greece's wide range of economic and

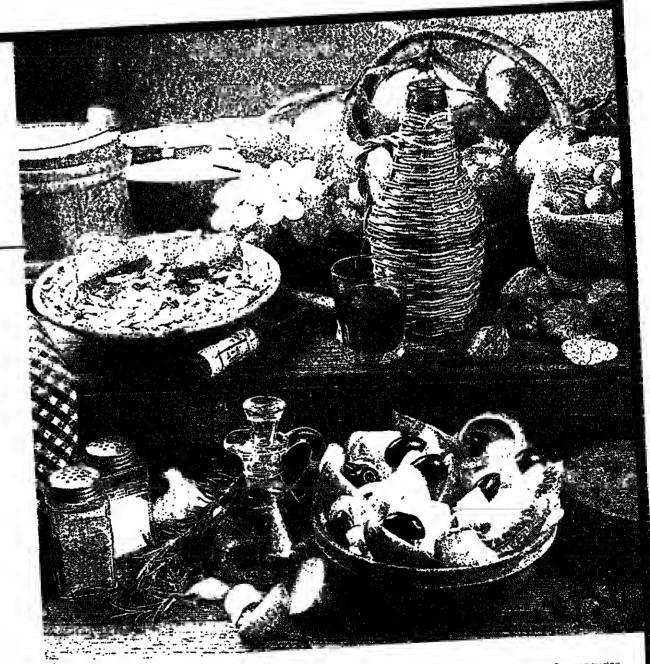
"This can be done through the development of professional/recreational tourism. In other words, make it possible for a tourist to combine nancial and trade personalities who could show the innegotiations should a tourist be professionally qualified for such activities." lic says.

"Such packages could be nutrition will also be pro- offered to foreign busimoted through publications, nesspeople who can thus seminars in hotels, and the combine business with pleasure, since a trip to Greece can offer both." he adds.

"In Greece, we believe that our country has all the necessary qualifications in tour operators and with con- order to combine tourism and where tourism and trade can tests on the use and value of trade for the benefit not only of the national economy, but also of society in general - a society with a vision of healthier nutrition for all and

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GREECE: The Authentic Choice

The shift has followed delivery to Parliament of a secret government re-port warning that Russia's nuclear shield will shrink dramatically and unavoidably in the years ahead as a result of weapons' obsolescence and national economic decline.

[A prominent member of the State Duma said Thursday that Parliament might open debate next month on rat-ification of the treaty, Reuters reported

from Moscow. The official, Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the foreign affairs committee and a former ambassador to Washington, said he felt a "measured optimism" that a ratification bill he had helped draw up would win backing from the Communist-led chamber.]

The treaty, signed in January 1993 by Presidents George Bush and Boris Yeltsin, and ratified by the U.S. Senate in January 1996, has attracted sharp opposition in the lower huuse, the State Duma, from nationalists and Communists, who deminate the chamber. The nists, who dominate the chamber. The accord has languished there for almost six years, despite Mr. Yeltsin's repeated promises to push it forward.

But lawmakers said that there had been a change in the political outlook for the treaty that could bring it to a vote as soon

as next month. The shift is based on an increasing realization that Russia's economic troubles have seriously undermined its ability to maintain a large strategic nuclear force. Backers say the treaty will limit the size of the U.S. ouclear force, which has become a compelling argument for ratification as the scope of the Russian decline grows apparent.

Alexei Podberiozkin, an influential Communist Party member and deputy chairman of the International Affairs Committee, has decided to back the treaty. "I had been very strongly op-posed to this treaty for many years, but the situation has changed—not in favor of Russia." he said. Mr. Podberiozkin added that "until recently. I thought there was no chance for ratification." He said. "Now, if we work hard, I suppose we can ratify it in December."

Like many other officials here, Mr. Podberiozkin said he wants ratification to lead "as quickly as possible" to negotiations for a follow-on START-3 occord, with still lower levels of stra-

occord, with still lower levels of strategic weapons, which Mr. Yelisin and President Bill Clinton have pledged.

START-2 would set limits of 3,500 to 3,000 warheads for each side, down from 6,000 under START-1. The tentative goals for START-3, set earlier by Mr. Clinton and Mr. Yelisin, are between 2,000 weakeeds for each side. 500 and 2,000 warheads for each side. The reality of Russia's dwindling

strategic forces, bowever, is that it cannot support even that many and that its heavy. multiple-warhead, land-based missiles are reaching the end of their

START-2 outlaws land-based, mul-tiple-warhead missiles, and Russia has started replacing them with new, single-warhead missiles, but the new Topol-M rocket recently failed a test flight, and it is not clear how many Russia can build,

given its economic problems.

The projected decline in Russian smategic arms capability was documented in a secret report-recently sent to the Duma by First Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Maslyukov, a former top Soviet-era military-industrial planner who has pushed for ratification of START-2.

According to two sources. Mr. Maslyukov estimated in his report that, because of obsolescence and other factors. Russia may be able to field only 800 to 900 nuclear warheads seven

BRIEFLY

Lithuania Seeks An EU Timetable

STOCKHOLM - Lithuania STOCKHOLM Lithuania would like to see a furn timetable for EU accession talks despite lingering issues such as the closing of the Soviet-made Ignahina nuclear power plant, Foreign Minister Algirdas Saodargas said Thursday. Speaking at a Baltic conference here, Mr. Saudargas said it was important for the European Union to allay fears that its commitment to expansion had not slowed.

expansioo had not slowed.

The issue of the Ignalina plant has dominated most discussions concerning Lithuania's potential membership. The plant has two reactors similar to the one that caused the 1986 Chemobyl disaster. The EU wants Lithuania to set a timetable for closing the plant ahead of membership talks. (Reuters)

France and Spain Set New Agenda

PARIS — France and Spain begin their annual meeting in the western French port of La Rochelle on Friday, and for once the focus of the summir will be on peace, rather than violence, in the Basque country. The meeting, which is usually largely devoted to how to fight the separatist group ETA, is the first since the separatist guerrillas declared a cease-fire two months ago in their 30-year-old campaign. in their 30-year-old campaign. ETA, a Basque acronym, stands for Basque Homeland and Freedom.

The Spanish authornies have so far refused to negonate with the guerrillas unless they provide evidence that they have giveo up the armed struggle forever. (Reuters)

For the Record

British customs officials have launched a pre-Christmas crack-down on alcohol and tobacco smngglers bringing goods into Bri-tain across the English Channel. Operation Mistletoe has involved raids on shops, pubs and clubs sus-pected of involvement in smug-

Ankara Rebuffs Rome On Meeting Over Kurd ANKARA - Prime Minister Mesul crushed Italian fruit. But Mr. D'Alema said Italy would ol a meeting to defuse an angry dispute over Turkey's demand that Rome hand over a Kurdish guerrilla leader.

Yilmaz rejected an Italian offer Thursday

Mr. Yılmaz's comments, made as he entered Parliament to face a censure vote that could bring the end of his government, showed growing Turkish fury that Ankara may not be able to secure the extradition from Italy of its

niost wanted man,

The state-run Anatolian News
Agency quoted Mr. Yilmaz as saying
Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema of Italy had suggested meeting before a soccer match between Turkish and Italian teams Wednesday in Istanbul.

"I said, "If he wants to talk, let bim come to Ankara," the agency quoted Mr. Yilmaz as saying, Turkey is pressuring Rome to hand over Abdullah Ocalan, the head of the

Kurdish Workers Party, who was de-tained as he entered Italy last week, Mr. Ocalan has applied for asylum. Protests have erupted in Ankara and

Islanbul, and the Turkish press has accused Italy, a NATO ally, of treating Vir. Ocalan as an honored guest.

Tour companies have canceled trips to haly in protest, imports of Italian shoes and jewelry have been stopped, and salesmeo at an Islanbul market

not bow to "economic blackmail. Italian law forbids extradining anyone to a country where they could face execution, as is the case with Mr. Ocalan. According to the ANSA news agency. Mr. D'Alema told his cabine! Thursday that Italy would stand by the law.

Mr. Ocalan flew to Italy from Moscow. His lawyers have asked that he believed under house agreet conding a de-

placed under house arrest pending a de-cision on extradition or asylum; a hearing on their petition is scheduled for Friday.

Mr. D'Alema has asked the European Union to back his efforts to maintain friendly relations with Turkey while respecting Italian law, But EU countries cannot agree on whether the Kurdish Workers Party is a terrorist organiza-tion. Officials in Austria, which holds the revolving EU presidency, said there had been no move to get involved in the crisis. Many Western European coun-tries have migrant Kurdish and Turkish

German officials were tight-lipped on whether Bonn would seek Mr. Ocalan's extradition for alleged crimes in Germany by his party.

many by his party.

The United States is pushing Italy to extradite Mr. Ocalan, whom it considers (Reuters, AP)



TASTE ()F WINTER IN ALSACE - A resident of Lampertheim, near Strasbourg, clearing snow from the sidewalk in front of his house Thursday after the first snowfall of the season blanketed northeastern France,

ASIA/PACIFIC

Burglars Loot Safe of Lawyer Aiding Anwar

The Associated Press
KUALA LUMPUR — Burglars ransacked the law office of one of Anwar Ibrahim's defense attorneys, breaking open a safe containing documents related to the former deputy prime minister's court case, the attorney reported Thursday.

Pawancheek Marican, one of Mr. Anwar's nine attorneys, said he had not yet sorted through the papers strewn across his office to see what had been taken.

They were looking for something in particular," Mr. Pawancheek said. "I have to make a police report. Then I'll ·check and see what's missing."

Mr. Anwar, once considered the successor to Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad, was dismissed Sept. 2. He is now on trial for sodomy and abuse of power, charges he denies and calls potitically morivated. The Mulaysian government recessed

Mr. Anwar's trial so it would not upstage the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting of 21 Pacific Rim leaders, which ended Wednesday.

Mr. Pawancheek said his office was broken into after 11 P.M. Wednesday. when a staff member triple-locked the office door and padlocked a metal sbut-

By Don Kirk

SEOUL - A U.S. special envoy,

Charles Kartman, said Thursday that he

had fiatly rejected a North Korean de-

mand for a reported \$300 million for

access to an underground facility in

which the North is suspected of de-

Mr. Kartman, after two days of un-successful talks in the North Korean

capital. Pyongyang, assured South

Korean officials of a tough U.S. stance

toward the North. President Bill Clinton

is due to arrive Friday night from Tokyo

for a meeting on Saturday with Pres-

ident Kim Dae Jung of South Korea. The issue of close cooperation in

dealing with North Korea was expected

to dominate the meeting amid mounting

concern about how to persuade the

North to open the underground site for

Mr. Kartman was to remain here until

the weekend to brief South Korean of-

ficials and Clinton administration aides

ficials were intended to allay their fears

that the United States may be reluctant

to compel the North to comply with the

Iramework agreed upon in Geneva in

His briefings for South Korean of-

on his talks earlier this week.

veloping nuclear weapons.



The safe containing Anwar trial documents lies open after the burglary.

When Mr. Pawancheek arrived Thursday morning, he discovered his concrete-reinforced steel safe open on its back. The safe's thick door hung in a tangle of meral from a single hinge.

U.S. Refuses to Buy North Korea Access

program. Mr. Kartman said he had

warned the North Koreans that refusal

to open up the site for inspection might

jeopardize the program under which the

North was to stop work on nuclear weapons in return for two nuclear re-

percent of the \$4.6 billion cost of the

reactors and the United States is ship-

ping heavy oil to North Korea to fill its

energy needs until they are completed.

The special envoy refused to say how

much the North Koreans had asked for

inspection of the site, which was first

spotted by satellite photography last

official press agency, said the asking price was \$300 million.

But Yonhap, South Korea's semi-

Clinton administration officials in

"We have rejected the question of

Washington confirmed that the North

had asked for hundreds of millions of

compensation so the question of the

amount is sort of irrelevant," Mr. Karı-

man said. He explained that the North

had demanded money as "compensa-tion for the insult" of Washington's

suggestion that it was violating the

summer.

dollars.

framework agreed upon in Geneva in 1994 for halting its nuclear weapons

He said the site was in Kumchangri, about 40 kilometers (25 miles) north-

Geneva agreement.

South Korea has agreed to pay 70

"If they know how to break that, they won't come with fingerprints." Mr.

Pawancheek said. Mr. Anwar's trial, which is likely to run into next year, resumes Monday,

west of North Korea's nuclear facilines

at Yongbyon, which is 145 kilometers

north of Pyongyang.

We asked the North Korean side to

remove our suspicions about Kumchangri, Mr. Karuman said, My

presentation contained a very clear ele-

ment about the danger the failure to

resolve those suspicions could pose to the viability" of the Geneva agree-

He said that it was "imperative these

suspicions be resolved but admitted

that there was a wide gap between their

positions. "We are still not satisfied."

U.S. officials said that their inspec-

tors had verified that the North was

making a show of complying with the

agreement at Yongbyon while failing to offer any proof that it had not trans-

ferred activities to Kumchangri.

Officials in Washington said, however, that the North did not appear

to have begun pouring cement for a new

reprocessing plant in Kumchangri that

could convert nuclear waste to bomb-

James Rubin, said that any attempt by

North Korea to revive its nuclear

entire letter and spirit of the Objectives'

weapons program would violate "the

The State Department spokesman,

grade plutonium.

BRIEFLY

India Establishes Security Council

NEW DELHI -- The Hindu nationalist government set up a national security council Thursday at which politicians would work with military generals to plan India's

defense policy.
Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vaj payee, who will head the council appointed Brajesh Mishra, his chief aide, as national security adviser, United News of India reported.

The council will include cabinet members and the chief of the Planning Commission, the news agency reported. The chiefs of the army, air force and navy and civilian officials will be part of the council's strategic policy group.

The Hindu nationalist Bharatiya

Janata Party promised to establish the council after it came to power io

Students March Against Suharto

JAKARTA — Up to 3,000 angry students were blocked from marching on former President Suharto's home Thursday as bis successor warned that further civil unrest

could threaten national noity.

Demonstrators faced off with about 500 soldiers holding riot shields and batons outside the U.S. ambassador's residence a few blocks away from Mr. Suharto's house. The former leader has remained a virtual recluse since his 32-year rule came to an end after

riots in May. Earlier, President B.J. Habibie said civil unrest could escalate if student protesters prevented his government from carrying out promised political reforms. (AP)

Foreign Journalists Warned by China

BELIING - China on Thursday warned toreign journalists not to break the country's laws, one day after a reporter for Der Spiegel. Juergen Kremb, was ordered to leave amid allegations that he possessed classified documents,

But a Foreign Ministry spokes-man refused to detail what kind of information was secret. "The Chinese government guar-

untees the legitimate rights and interests of foreign correspondents and news organizations," the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Tang Guoqiang, said at a regular news briefing. "At the same time, foreign correspondents in Beijing and foreign news organizations must observe the laws of China." (Reuters)

Britain Defends Pursuit Of Ex-Spy Freed in Paris

LONDON — The Labour government, stunned by a Paris court's decision to release a renegade former Brit-ish spy, on Thursday defended its attempts to prosecute him and denied they were politically motivated.

As the former spy, David Shayler, celebrated his freedom in France, Downing Street said officials hoped to be able to appeal the Paris court's refusal to extradite him to Britain on charges of breaking government secrecy laws. But some news organizations said

that the French decision exposed problems with Britain's Official Secrets Act and that it was hypocritical of Labour ministers who had opposed secrecy laws when they were in opposition to be trying to enforce them now. One of these ministers, Home Sec-

retary Jack Straw, denied that Britain's pursuit of Mr. Shayler, who worked for the domestic connterintelligence service MI5, was a political action. "This prosecution was in no way politically motivated, Mr. Straw said.

But we wait to see the judgment. We then await to see what decisions the French prosecutor, in whose hands the question of appeal lies, whether they make an appeal or not." Mr. Straw brushed off a question on whether Mr. Shayler would be jailed

"That is not a matter for me," he told BBC radio. "It is a matter for the prosecution anthorities, who are independent of the home secretary."

Many in Britain found the case reminiscent of that of Peter Wright, whose

immediately if he returned to Britain.

1987 book "Spycatcher" about the MI5 was banned in Britain but was published in Australia despite strenuous British efforts to stop it. 'Just as in the case of Peter Wright, the spy who wrote about secret service plots to bug Harold Wilson, it has taken a

foreign court to expose Britain's un-

healthy obsession with secrecy." The In-dependent said in an editorial Thursday. Tony Blair and Jack Straw have relied on a secrecy law whose introduction they once opposed because it didn't allow a public interest defense," the newspaper said. "How curious that they changed their stance once in gov-

emment." Mr. Shayler, 32, moved to France after the British government began in-

tion about MI5 in a series of new interviews beginning last year.

"Among other things, Mr. Shayler ac cused Britain of supporting a bouched plot to kill the Libyan leader, Moammar Gadhafi, in February 1996 with a car bomb. He said Muslim extremists placed the device under the wrong car. killing bystanders.

Mr. Shayler also alleged that three Irisb Republican Army bombings on the British mainland could have been prevented if his former bosses had been less a bureaucratic He also claimed that MI5 held files on

more than 500,000 British subjects, including at least two ministers in the present government. The British authorities, after attempt-

ing to lure Mr. Shayler back to London with promises of immunity from prosecution took action against him after he threaten took by bublish further allegations

threatened to publish further allegations on the Internet.

He was arrested at the request of Britain oo Aug. I and beld in a Paris prison pending extradition proceedings.

After bis release Wednesday, Mr., Sbayler said: "It's a great day for justice and a sad and embarrassing one for the British government and MI5. I'm glad to be out of prison but I sbouldn't bave had to spend four months in jail for criticizing MI5."

(Reuters, 1999) (Reuters, AP)

Beaujolais Nouveau Time

PARIS — Corks were pulled from bottles of Beau jolais Nonveau

in 192 countries on Thursday, giving wine lovers their first taste of the 1998 vintage.

The young French wine, harvested two months ago, went on sale time zone by time zone in the first seconds of the traditional third Thursday of November Thursday of November.

The wine this year is quite good, and there is pleoty of it to go around," said Aurore Baconnais at

a wine shop in Paris.

About 54 million bottles of the heavily hyped young wine were to be put on sale this year, with half staying in France, 40 percent going to the rest of Europe and 10 percent to the rest of the world.

Azerbaijani Press Fasts in Protest

BAKU, Azerbaijan — Editors and Britain, journalists from independent newspapers have begun a hunger strike to protest police beatings of journalists and libel suits against opposition media.

The editors say criminal cases that have been opened charging defamation of President Heydar Aliyev, as well as recent calls for tighter media controls by Parliament, constitute harassment and censorship. Parliament is dominated by supporters of Mr. Aliyev, whose broth-

have bought expensive real estate in

We were forced to take this action and go on a hunger strike because th authorities want to smother the inde pendent press, 'said Rauf Arif, editor of the Yeni Musavat, organ of the op-position Musavat (Equality) party. Mr. Aliyev bowed to international

pressure and lifted official censorship only in August in advance of a presidential election. The state prosecutor recently opened

er. Dzhalal, has sued an opposition criminal cases under a statute prohibnewspaper, Azadlyg, for reporting that iting "defamation of the bonor and dignard other relatives of the president inty of the president" (AP. Reufers)

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أواحد ومعيد

NEW DELHI — The Foreign Ministry of India said Thursday that President Boros Yeltsin of Russia still wanted to visit the country de-

spite canceling a December trip.

The Kremlin announced Wednesday that Mr. Yeltsin had asked Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov to make the December trip in his. place, fueling speculation over Mr. Yeltsin's health. (Reuters)

Congo to Skip Talks

KINSHASA Democratic Repul-lic of the Congo — The government of President Laurent Kabila will not

ment said Thursday.

The meeting will gather officials of the United Nations and African

In British Columbia VANCOUVER. Columbia — A Sikh newspaper pub-lisher who was critical of Sikh hard-liners was shot and killed here in his

an edict from the religion's ruling body in India to remove tables and chairs from temple dining halls, which fundamentalists consider inappropriate there. (AP)

attend talks in Botswana on Friday that are aimed at bringing peace to this war-torn country, the govern-

diplomats. A delegation from the rebels who are fighting to topple Mr. Kabila will attend. (Reuters)

INTERNATIONAL

Washington to Finance **Mideast Security Pact**

But Getting Congress to Pay Is Uncertain

By William A. Orme Jr. New York Times Service

JERUSALEM -- President Bill Clinton is promising Israel and the Pales-tinian Authority that the United States wilt pick up much of the bill for their new land-for-security plan. But buying peace will not be cheap, or easy.

The change io House Republican leadership means that congressional scrutiny could be more acuse than orig-

Israel's new aid request raises po-tential diplomatic problems because the United States runs the risk of subsidizing roads to Jewish sentements in the West Bank. And greatly increasing aid to the Palestinians poses financial and political difficulties. U.S. officials say.

As the Clinton administration weighs the Israeli and Palestinian requests, it is striving to ensure that the entire aid package strengthens rather than further complicates its role as a mediator.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is expected to seek up to \$1 hillion for pulling Israeli forces out of the West Bank, over and above the \$2.9 hillion in military and economic aid already ear-marked for Israel this fiscal year. The new request comes just as Congress has reduced assistance to Israel for the first time in decades, curling its yearly eco-nomic support to \$1.08 hillion, from \$1.2 hillion, the beginning of what was announced as a 10-year phase-out of

Yasser Árafat, the Palestinian leader, says he helieves he has a green light to solicit as much as \$300 million in new U.S. assistance — a hig jump in U.S. aid to Palestinian-controlled Gaza and the West Bank, which has been kept at \$75 million annually for the past five years.
Until recently, congressional approv-

al did not seem much at issue. The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, and the minority leader, Richard Gephardt, had signaled readiness to provide

sured of becoming Mr. Gingrich's successor, was one of the few congressional leaders who has publicly questioned economic aid to Israel. Congressional critics of Mr. Arafat, meanwhile, are likely to try to continue to block direct bilateral-style aid.

The Clinton administration has not disclosed the full scope of its new appropriation request, which represents the fulfillment of a pledge by the president to help underwrite the costs of the interim peace accord negotiated last month in Wye, Maryland.

"The administration is considering the details of a package, which will address Israeli security requirements relating to Wye and Palestinian economic needs," Jim Foley, a State Department spokesman, said last Friday.

While the expected U.S. aid package will spotlight the large and widening gap be-tween aid to Israel and aid to the Palestinians,

Palestinian economic officials hope it will institutionalize U.S. economic support. After the Oslo agreement in 1993, the United States announced a five-year, \$500 million economic-aid package for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip: \$375 million in grants from the Agency for International Development and \$125 million in loan guarantees for new local U.S. business ventures from the Overseas Private Investment Corp.

U.S. Seeks Donors for Accord

The United States said Thursday that it would hold an international conference oo Nov. 30 to seek new financial assistance to support the new Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement, Renters re-ported from Washington.

The State Department spokesman, James Robin, said President Clinton had

invited some 50 nations and multilateral organizations to attend the donors' conference, which will be held in Washington. He said the United States planned to "increase U.S. assistance to substantial new assistance. But the Appropriations Comminee chairman, Repropriations Comminee Chairman, Repropriation Chairman, Repr



Palestinian policemen marching Thursday in a parade in Jenin to celebrate approval of the Israeli withdrawal.

ISRAEL: West Bank Transfer to Palestinians Gets Final Approval

Continued from Page 1

ister Benjamin Netanyahu's tenuous control over his government.

The ministers voted 7 to 5 to start the land transfer, with three abstentions, including Natan Sharansky, the trade minister who helped negotiate the Americanhrokered agreement, and two absences.

In authorizing the transfer, the cahinet accepted generally that the Palestinians had lived up to their security commitments to date, among them the broadcast of decrees outlawing incitement and or-dering the surrender of illegal weapons to the anthorities.

Also, an executive comminee of the

Palestine Liberation Organization has reaffirmed the annulment of clauses in the Palestinian covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

estinian assertion that more than a dozen fugirives wanted by the Israelis had been arrested.

released prisoners at army bases in the next 48 hours anyway. They are to be picked up by the Palestinian authorities.

The cabinet also approved the open-ing of the airport in Gaza, which is expected by Sunday, when Royal Air Maroc is scheduled to make the inaugural landing.

And it authorized the release of 250

Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails. But there have been complicated negotiations with the Palestinians over the without hlood on their hands," including 150 common criminals in the first group, the Palestinians protested,
"Do you think Yasser Arafat went to

Wye Plantation to free car thieves?" asked Ahmed Tibi, a senior aide to Mr. Arafat, the Palestinian leader.

But some ministers complained that there was insufficient proof of the Pal- but the Israelis plan to drop off the

prisoner affairs. This is the first phase of a 12-week withdrawal plan, which will leave 40 percent of the West Bank under Pal-

said Hisham Abdul Raza, the minister of

estiman control. **■ Celebratory Parade in Jenin**

Thousands of Palestinians paraded in Jenin on Thursday to celebrate the Israeli cabinet's decision, Reuters reported. About 5,000 people, many of them youngsters, joined the parade, which was led by uniformed Palestinian security forces with rifles at their shoulders.

Palestinians said they hoped the pullback would presage an independent Palestinian state throughout the West Bank and Gaza, which Israel captured in the 1967 Middle East War.

SMOKE: **Epidemic Predicted**

Continued from Page 1

stand how the cross smoking is, said the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine and author of one of the papers. Over 50 percent of Chinese populations smoking does little on to have and over 66 percent don't know it chailead to lung cancer. Added the Firen: Policymakers act on earlies of from Chine in the cardes of the control of the

no evidence from China." In the last two years, the Chinese government has organized anti-smoking campaigns and smoke-free days, banning cigarette advertising and imposing smoking bans in public places. But it is the beginning of a long uphili battle.

Selling cigarettes is a lucrative husiness in China, which produces more tobacco than any other country on earth and where the government owns an estimated 90 percent of tobacco companies.

Cigarette companies are still the spon-1 sors of many sports events catering to young people, from the Marlboro Soccer League to the 555 motor-cross races.

Mother Lode of Dinosaur Eggs and Embryos Thrills Researchers

By John Schwartz

WASHINGTON - Researchers have announced the discovery of the richest dinosaur nesting ground ever uncovered — a site in Argentina's Patagonian badlands so crammed with eggs and egg fragments that paleontologists found themselves literally walking on eggshells.

lumbering plant-eaters whose ranks included what however, were theropods — the dinosaur groupmost people know as the brontosaurus. Even more ing that included ment-eaters such as the tyastounding, some of the specimens showed the rannosaurus rex and the velociraptor. This is the fossilized casts of embryonic dinosaur skin, the first confirmed discovery of sauropod embryos, sort of soft tissue that almost never survives the and it confirms the sauropod origins of similar tests of geologic time.

"This piece, to me, has been the most exciting fossil find in my entire life," said Luis Chiappe, a pulcontologist at the American Museum of Nat-ural History in New York who co-led the ex-pedition that discovered the site. He gently cradled a fragment of the brown, porous shell with the nuhhly texture of a fragment of skin clearly displayed on the inside.

The fossil skin shows tiny, lizard-like scales, with a hand of larger scales down the center, an pared the characteristics of the bones to those of whole nest would be too difficult to transport.

scales ran down the middle of the animal's back. Within five minutes of getting out of the car, everyone was kneeling down and looking at the fossilized eggs with great disbelief, he said.

Dinosaur eggs have been found in many locations around the world, and a few of those eggs have contained the fossilized remains of dinosaur emselves literally walking on eggshells.

embryos — Including a spectacular find in MonDozens of the dinosaur eggs contained the firstgolia announced in 1993 by the American Muspherical eggs found in Africa, India, China, Europe and South America.

Lowell Dingus, a genlogist, described the feeling of being in such a place as "Christmas."

The embryos are not complete tiny dinosaurs

hut are scrambled and lie flattened at the bottom of the shell. Researchers are piecing the hits together to determine what kind of sauropod they were.

Rodolfo Coria, a paleontologist with Museo Municipal Carmen Funes in Argentina, has com- larger chunk of stone, but said they were afraid the ranger station to protect the treasure from poach-

arrangement that probably indicates that the larger other sauropods and believes that they are probably dinosaurs now known as titanosaurs. Though ti-tanosaurs were among the largest animals ever to walk the Earth, the Patagonian titanosaurs of the of bone in their skin samples. They said this could time were comparatively puny, growing to about 15 meters (45 feet) long and weighing several tons.

several eggs, the Auca Mahuevo features nests teeming with eggs. Researchers cut one collection out of the rock containing at least 20 of the round eggs, each with a diameter of about 15 centimeters. They could have gotten more by cutting a site to be public land and has begun huilding a

mean that the bone develops later, as it does for some of today's Nile crocodiles.

The site contains fossils that date 70 million to 90 millinn years, from the period known as the late Cretaceous. Today it offers sweeping vistas of each barely two millimeters long. One of the pen- low, scrubby, nrange-hrown sandstone ridges. But ever confirmed embryos of sauropods, the large, seum of Natural History. Those embryos, cil-shaped choppers already showed signs of tooth- back at the time when it was part of the land massfloodplain crisscrossed with streams.

The eggs were found in extremely finelygrained sandstone, leading the researchers to believe that the streams flooded with just enough force to gently cover the eggs with silt, but not enough to destroy them.

ough to destroy them.

This has the potential to become a very, very important place for the study of dinosaur emhryology." Mr. Chiappe said.

The dozens of eggs already collected will soon

LAFONTAINE: Vow to Enforce Rigor

Continued from Page 1

start of the 1990s by Jacques Delors, then the European Commission president But he also emphasized that the investments must be made "without questioning the existing Stability Pact.

Leading European industrialists have been harshly critical of Mr. Lafontaine's recent statements about reflating the German economy, and many economists have warned that the ascendancy of leftist governments across Europe might mean that public spending could soon replace fiscal responsibility.

Yet on Thursday, when asked if he agreed with proposals by Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema, European Commissioner Mario Monti and some of his own aides that new public spending on infrastructure could be excluded from calculations of budget deficits under the Maastricht treaty, Mr. Lafontaine demurred. He merely said, "We don't have such problems in Germaoy.

Mr. Lafontaine, who issued a joint call with Mr. Ciampi for a coordinated European 'policy mix' of fiscal, monetary and income policies that would lift growth and fight unemployment, was also keen to stress that he was not suggesting a collective sening of wage levels across Europe.

'We cannot have a single European income level," Mr. Lafontaine said. "That would be absurd and that might create the fear that we want a harmonized was one of the recommendations of a level of income in Europe. Income must recent commission on Bretton Woods be tied to productivity levels in national, that included Paul Volcker. regional and local workplace terms."

In another sign that Germany's govstance, Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder on Thursday announced plans to repeal rules that have traditionally exempted low-paid employment from welfare contributions.

Mr. Lafontaine's theme, in his meetings Thursday with Mr. Ciampi and Mr. Brown, was that Europe needed to combut unemployment by way of "a policy mix of coordinated fiscal, monetary and incomes policy." This concept, along change-rate bands are too narrow." with Mr. Lafontaine's view that confrom the 11 nations adopting the euro. see tax harmonization as a priority.

The meeting, ahead of the gathering next Monday of all 15 European Union ministers, is expected to release a policy paper entitled "The New European Way Economic Reform in the Framework of EMU.'

Meanwhile, in Germany on Thursday,

the IFO economics institute released its monthly husiness-climate index showing that confidence had fallen in October more than had been expected. Mr. Lafontaine hrushed off the report, along with sharp criticism on Wednes-

day of the Schroeder government's eco-

nomic policies by the government's pan-

el of independent economic advisers. The expectations regarding economic growth in Germany reflect the international environment," he said.
Mr. Lafontaine then noted that "God gave us two eyes" and said he meant that Bonn would make economic policy on the basis of "both supply and demand." Explaining further, he said that "since 980 we have had a constant, unchanged

level of real incomes, and maybe we

should come to the conclusion that despite fully used capacities we have a problem on the demand side." Asked whether he planned to press ahead with his proposal for Group of Seven nations to try and manage currency rates by way of "target zones" despite opposition from Washington and Paris, Mr. Lafontaine insisted that "the idea comes from the United States, and

He said Germany's goal was "to guarantee stability" in foreign-exernment was adapting a more pragmatic change markets "and therefore to look at some kind of target zones as the basis of international cooperation.

Stanley Fischer, the International Monetary Fund's first deputy managing director, on Thursday rejected Mr. Lafontaine's proposal. In an interview published in the Handelshlatt newspaper, Mr. Fischer warned it could "lead to destabilizing speculation, if the ex-

Although Mr. Lafontaine and Mr. governing party has agreed to adopt sumer demand needs to be stimulated by Ciampi both backed full tax harmoniztax cuts for low-paid workers, forms the ation in the European Union, a spokesman German message that will be delivered on for Mr. Brown said London agreed on the Sunday at a meeting of finance ministers need to battle unemployment but did not

The hatchlings, however, emerged from their eggs at a mere 38 centimeters (15 inches) in length.:

One embryo was discovered with 32 tiny teeth. grinding wear common to titanosaurs, strengthening the hypothesis about their species and further indicating that the creatures were born hungry.

The nesting site is near an area called Auca Mahuia and went undiscovered even by villagers who herded goats nearby. The researchers named the site Auca Mahuevo, a play on hucro, the

Spanish word for egg.
While nests found elsewhere generally contain

be joined by others after an expedition in March. The government of Argentina has declared the

CLINTON: In TV Talk, Japanese Get to Know the President Better

Continued from Page 1.

forward manner, and I believe they did,

Mr. Clinton's purpose was to continue to nudge Japan to take steps to revive its stagnated economy, at the same time providing reassurances that Japan had not lost its special relationship with the United States. For years, the Japanese basked in the oft-quoted refrain that the U.S.-Japanese ties had grown into the world's most important bilateral relationship. But Japan these days is acutely sensitive to signs that its status is slipping while Washington turns its attention to China, the rapidly emerging

Asian giant:

yes. that's really a question you could ask them better than me."

The moderator, Tetsuya Chikushi, idency, he has over the last year emstepped in quickly. "Thanks you very ployed it overseas, first in Argentina in much. Let's change the topic now," he said. soothing the anxieties of the Japanese

1997 and, most notably, last summer with students in China.

On the economy, the most sensitive issue of his visit to Japan, Mr. Clinton struck a softer tone than has been heard from Washington since the Asian economic crisis struck more than a year ago.

Astrong Japan is good for you, not essential to the rest of Asia emerging from its present difficulties. Don't be discouraged, but do be determined. That would be the advice of a friend.

Although the government of Minister Keizo Ohuchi has been widely and the structure of the Instead of blasting Japan for inaction, as maligned by American officials since a series of administration officials have Mr. Obuchi took office in July, Mr. been doing for more than a year, he offered what he referred to as "the ad-

vice of a friend."
"The United States views Japan as our friend, our ally for the future," he said. "We regret that you have the present economic challenges you The format Thursday night, which the have but we don't think you should

White House sought out, seemed be too pessimistic about the future, uniquely suited to Mr. Clinton's goal of 'I would urge you to support your I would urge you to support your government in aggressively dealing with the financial institutions, aggressively moving to support greater consumption, aggressively moving for structural changes that will create more jobs.

Clintoo urged parience. "Do not judge too harshly, too quickly," he said. "I think the hig things

that have been done here are essentially moving in the right direction. Mr. Clinton offered reassuring words on China, saying that stable relations be-tween China and the United States, were

good for Japan. He urged Japan to try to improve relations with China as well.

'It's now been quite a long time since the last world war," he said. 'I think whatever remaining misunderstandings

there are should be resolved." Mr. Clinton also addressed the question of U.S. troops on Okmawa, where residents have been angered by years of accidents, crime and other bad behavior

among American servicemen. "I am very respectful of the challenges that our presence has caused to the government and people of Okina-wa, Mr. Clinton said. 'I hope we can continue to ease the burden on the people. of Okinawa, but stay for as long as Japan and the United States agree that it is wise for us to stay."

Mrs. Kato said nothing she had heard from Mr. Clipton would lessen her anger over American criticism of Japan's hand dling of its economy. She said that she had found his answers on Okinawa and the economy a little disingenuous, and that Mr. Clinton did not seem sensitive enough to the plight of Japanese family farmers.
Mrs. Kato said she had little sympathy for Mr. Clinton's sex-scandal problems.

If that was my husband, I would kill him." she said. But she also said she could not help liking Mr. Clinion, which may be the best he can hope for in the next two days.



Mr. Ciampi arriving for a news conference in Rome on Thursday.

JAPAN: Governing Party Cuts Coalition Deal With Its Archenemy

Continued from Page 1

anempt to form an opposition party fell apart in December. But he has maneuvered his way back into the spotlight and 'Ozawa is a player once again," said-John Neuffer, a senior analyst at Mitsui

Marine Research Center. "The downside is that if you look at other parties that have already have a majority with 262 seats. gotten close to the LDP in recent years. they've not ended up in the best shape." Naoto Kan, leader of the Democratic Party, the largest opposition party, declared the alliance a mortal blow to the

Liberal Party. "This shows the defeat of the Liberal Party." he said: But the Liberals had little to lose. Widely expected to lose several seats in the next election, the fractious party will now gain at least one cabinet seat after the upcoming extraordinary session of Parliament closes in December, and the many Liberal policies — although not the party's proposal to suspend the unpopular national sales tax. issue 700 billion yen (\$5.8 billion) worth

The party has been forced to rule by coalition since Mr. Ozawa defected in

1993. While the alliance adds only 12 more votes in the Upper House, it provides 35 more votes in the Lower House, where the Liberal Democrats pushes away other influential party already have a majority with 262 seats. Beyond additional troops, the coali-tion will help rein in the right wing of the Liberal Democrats. Led by Seiroku

ists have created a sort of ootspoken internal opposition within the party. The two have been pushing an alliance with Mr. Ozawa and another opposition party, Komei, which is backed by a large lay Buddhist sect.

Kajiyama and Shizuka Kamei, the right-

tf we are unsuccessful in organizing coalition with the Liberal Party and Komei before the extraordinary session, the Obuchi administration will hit a " Mr. Kamei predicted last month. The Liberal Democrats have agreed to

ise of Liberal Party support in the ex-traordinary session of Parliament sched-uled to begin Nov. 27, is less ohvious. In the Upper House, The opposition party's younger members refuse to ap-prove a full-fledged alliance with the Liberal Democrars, but the coupon plan: is expected to help win their support in Partiament if not at the electoral level.

But at the same time the coalition embraces the Kajiyama-Kamei forces, it secretary-general of the party, Taku Yamasaki: former chairman of the party's Policy Research Council, and Junichiro Koizumi, the former minister for health and welfare who ran against Mr. Obuchi and Mr. Kajiyama for the prime minister's post this summer.

Indeed, Hiromu Nonaka, the powerful chief cabinet secretary who was the chief driver behind the coalition, acknowledged the difficulty of trying to hold the two wings together when he suggested. Thursday night that he might resign before the alliance is formalized.

Mr. Kato has been a close ally of Mr. Nonaka, but he questioned whether the party rank-and-file would support the What the Liberal Democrats gain of shopping coupons to win the co-deal. "They should have done it the from the coalition, other than the promoperation of Komei, which has 24 seats partywide discussions." he said." deal. "They should have done it through

Peisure

From Kumquats to Katmandu

A Small Chinese Town Carves an Oasis for the Tourist Trade

By Katherine Tanko

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ANGSHUO, China — A huge poster of Mao hangs on the kitchen doorway. In the brave new world in 1990s China, the Great Helmsman has been born again as an icon of good forume. "He is a king, dragon-god. Hanging his picture on doorways brings good luck," one local said. "I don't believe it myself, but my grandmother insists it's true."

Things have changed in Yangshuo.

This small country town once known for its pomelos, kumquats and not much else has created its own special niche in the nation's burgeoning tourist trade. Cashing in on a steady flow of tourists from nearby Guilin, locals have transformed this once impoverished rural outpost into a latter-day Katmandu, offering visitors the chance to experience a side of China often hidden to visitors. :

For a first-hand glimpse of country life, I joined up with Li Yun Zhao, one of a dozen local farmers who offer tailor-made tonrs into the countryside, including lunch in their own homes. These . popular tours give visitors a chance to experience village life at close quarters and sample authentic rural cuisine. A bicycle, some basic English and a notebook to record the glowing comments of satisfied customers are all that's needed launch a incrative career as a rural

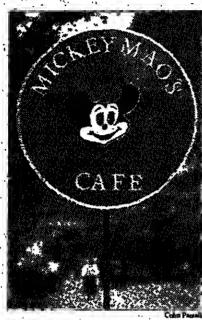
Li first began giving tours in 1992. "I needed to make money," she said as we set out from Yangshuo on foor. "My house was very old and I wanted to send my three children to school. A few women were already doing tours and I thought, hey, I can do that!" We cut down a dirt path and were soon lost in the undulating karst rock landscape the Guangxi region is famous for.

Mossy limestone peaks towered above a patchwork of fish farms, citrus groves and paddies laced with mean-dering, jade-green streams. A group of women, knee-deep in paddy mild, teased

Li as we passed, scolding her for strolling around when there was work to be done. I was invited to roll up my trousers and get down in the mud to try my hand at transplanting the tender rice seedlings.

Li spoke with candor about life for the contemporary peasant in this part of the world. Collective farming ended in 1981 when every family was allotted a portion of land. "Before, if you were lazy or worked hard, you got the same. So no one bothered working hard and there were bad harvests. Now if people work hard they can do well."

We passed through a small village where the sound of voices reciting lessons echoed from a schoolroom. On a grassy verge sat a lone toddler clutching a rice bowl while mother worked in the fields nearby. "No mother-in-law," Li-said sadly, asking how women in the West managed without the live-in help most Chinese women take for granted.



Mickey Mao's serves good, cheap Chinese and international food.

Her relationship with her own motherin-law had a rocky start, marked by conflict that sometimes led to violence. 'But that's all in the past," she said.

"We get along very well now."
It's no wonder. Li is the family cash
cow, sometimes earning in a week what other farmers earn in a year. Thanks to her success, the 300-year-old family home has been replaced by a two-story house complete with satellite dish. In the front room, a large television blared a Qing Dynasty-era soap opera while Li served a lunch of fried lotus flower, spicy chili salad and soup.

AN IDEAL BASE

"That was a very bad time," she said gravely as the image of threadbare peasants fighting to catch handfuls of grain filled the screen. Above the television sat a shrine invoking the ancestors to bless the family with good luck, surrounded by the school certificates of her three shill dren. three children - a triumph for a woman who managed only three years of school

before being relegated to the kitchen.
Although Yangshuo originally served as little more than a stopping off point for river cruises from Guilin, the town now boasts enough amenities to serve as an ideal base for exploring Guangxi's many attractions. Travel agents in town can arrange tours, tickets and excursions to Dong villages and the famous rice terraces of Longsheng. But there is also plenty to do right here. There are hicycles for hire and the aquatically minded can rent inner tubes and kayaks for a day on the river.

One-day boat tours are one of the most popular excursions. The five-hour ride to the village of Yangdi weaves through some of the prettiest sections of the Li River, Craggy peaks with names like White Tiger Hill and Pen Holder Peak big the river's edge. Fishermen on rafts made of tightly lashed bamboo skim across the water like gondoliers, ignored by the water buffalo that graze by the shore. On misty days the landscape takes

Once known for its pomelos, kumquats and not much else, Yangshuo is cashing in on the flow of tourists.

on a haunting quality, hinting at the legends bound up in these ancient peaks. Follow the river south for an hour to

Fuli, a small village of muddy footpaths and crumbling stone houses. The main attraction is the biweekly market, which draws thousands from the countryside. Here you can see the machinations of China's free-market ethic in full flight. Everything from toads to rat poison and of course more conventional produce --- is flogged in an enormous market square the size of an aircraft hangar. There were giant tubs of carfish and eel, sacks stuffed with tobacco and men bar-

becaing pork trotters with a blow torch. After an hour wandering the market maze, I climbed on the hicycle I had brought by boat and cycled back to Yangshuo along quiet country roads. Long gone are the days when the only

run flophouses with hot water restricted to a few hours in the evening. The Yangshuo Paradise Resort offers international-standard rooms starting at \$100, but you can save up to 50 percent by booking through an agent.
It's also worth checking out the

private guest houses, many of which compete for the growing upper-end mar-ket and boast "luxury" and family rooms with private bath for a fraccion of the price. Cafés with fetching names like Mickey Mao's and The Red Star Express have English menus and serve good, cheap Chinese and internacional food.

Much of Yangshuo's appeal lies in its unique ability to reconcile such tourist kitsch with the town's down-home country charm. Beyond the souvenir stalls and tourist cafés, everyday

accommodation in Yangshuo were state- Yangshuo lives on. Tractors heading for the fields puner noisily down cobbled streets; men huddle outside shops playing mahjong while kids wielding badminton tackets leap and squeat in the streets. And because tourism has been a boon, visitors are welcome.

Autumn is the best time to visit - vou avoid the heat of summer, when temperatures can reach 40 degrees centigrade, It's even possible to combine a stay in Guilin with a few nights in Yangshuo, Although Guilin is still benerknown, more and more people are forgoing the hermetically sealed safety of its star-rated hotels to wallow in Yangshuo's country charms. The odd Mao poster here and there hasn't hurt either.

Katherine Tanko is a journalist who travels frequently in Asia.

Away From It All: Isle of Wight

By Susan Allen Toth

YDE, England - In late fall, many British seaside resort towns have a haunting early dusk, a festive air lingers in the scattered lights of a few year-round restaurants, the muted clamor of games from an open arcade, the glimmer of Victorian lamps over a deserted boardwalk. Tourist-season signs --"Fudge and Salt Taffy," "Postcards, Souvenirs, Maps' - hang above closed shops.

Shuttered and secluded, these towns have a hushed feeling, as if they were waiting for something to happen. In the full between mellow autumn and the battering of winter storms; they offer a brief sense of suspended time. Last fall, when my husband and I

were planning an early December trip to London, I decided that sense of suspension was just what we needed.

When I studied the map, I kept returning to the intriguing shape of the Isle of Wight, 23 miles (37 kilometers) wide and 13 miles long, off the southern coast. Brochures for the island, a summer holiday mecca, mmpeted regattas: Queen Victoria's country retreat, Osborne House, and tourist attractions states a famasy park, states railway, golf courses and zoo. Far from undiscovered, it was dotted with towns and villages.

When I read about the off-season isle of Wight, however, it seemed a different The view from Ventnor, called the "Madeira of England" kind of place - no because of its terraced streets carved into the steep hillsides. Osborne

House often closed, holiday villages garden, with sections devoted to Ausshut down. My Outdoor Leisure Map tralia, southern Africa, New Zealand wrote some of his best-known poetry, butlined vast stretches of beach, and the Mediterranean, among other including 'Idylls of the King.' On the coastal walks and inland footpaths; and my tourist handbook promised, with only a little hedging, a semi-Mediterranean climate. After a twohour drive from Gatwick airport, London, and a half-hour ferry ride, we'd have all that sea waiting for us.

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

Ryde, a busy little resort town on the north coast a few minutes' drive from Fishbourne, where the car ferry arrives, was already getting ready for Christmas. When we found a small hotel open for a late lunch, we watched our waitress doing double duty as she hung lanterns and strings of colored lights around the cheerful room. Outside, just beyond an enclosed garden where a few roses and geraniums still bloomed we could see the waves

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1 1 mm A ... washing up on the sandy shore. After settling into Little Orchard, a bed-and-breakfast outside the tiny village of St. Lawrence on the southeast coast, we made our plans. Walks, some exploration by car, and, mexpectedly, the theater - for we had seen a notice most. Charles I was briefly imprisoned in the window of the hearby village in the castle, before his eventual be-

dramatic society, would present a thriller-comedy by Simon Brett in the hall the following night. Tickets, under \$5, would include refreshments.

charm. In the damp chill of bright sunshine; and we only needed out extra chairs for us. The small rectlight jackets for our planned four-mile walk, neatly mapped out in an Ordnance Survey guidebook. We began oo a grassy cliff near Ventnor, a coastal town near our inn called the "Madeira of England" because of its terraced streets carved into the steep hillsides. We then descended to a cove, where sun-flecked ocean spray dashed almost to the doors of several shuttered cottages.

Climbing again, we detoured into the 22-acre (nine-hectare) Ventnor Botanic Garden, still blooming with fuchsia, roses and enormous hushes of rosemary. This sheltered oasis is de-

regions, and a medicinal garden con-

taining plants used in folk remedies.

Continuing up, we entered Para-dise Walk. This path, slippery with

wet leaves and fresh-smelling com-

post, took us back into the shadow of

overhanging trees. Thickly wooded

with shrubs and ferns as well as trees.

Paradise Walk felt like a quarter-mile

slice of jungle. Above us was part of the Undercliff, one of the island's

most remarkable geological features, a seven-mile natural terrace formed by a slippage of chalk and limestone.

Eventually we emerged onto High Downs. Walking along the edge of

Rew Down, a nature reserve, we

could see past green pastures, sheep

and housetops to the glinting sea far

below. Winter seemed wonderfully

After lunch - fresh crab at a pub

where our windows looked out on surf

a few yards away — we drove across the island, meandering on country lanes, to Carisbrooke Castle, with an

imposing medieval gatehouse, massive stone ramparis and a deep

far away.

hall. The Pepperpot Players, a local heading in 1649, but the fortress seemed almost cheerful in the balmy Our night at the theater was a high-

light of the weekend, a village event On Saturday morning, we awoke to packed with local people, who pulled angular space made a surprisingly effective playhouse. At intermission, after we had our tea, a lady passed trays of cookies down each row, and another conducted a lively raffle (at abour 16 cents a ticker) with prizes that included a bottle of wine and a box of Christmas sparklers. The play was charming, and its actors confident and well-rehearsed.

On Sunday morning, we circled half the Isle of Wight, driving south and then northwest along a stunning coastline toward the Needles and Alum Bay. Judging from the size of restaurants and gift shops, summer toursigned as a Victorian subtropical ists flock to see the bay and its

Needles, three dramatic white-chalk outcrops jutting from the water. The bay, named for the alum that was once extracted here, is famous for its strata of sandstone in white, black and soft shades of green, red, yellow and brown. The sands are sold in various souvenir forms. But on this gray, chilly day, the chairlift down to the beach wasn't working, only one gift shop was open and we walked by ourselves to the lighthouse that guards the bay for views of the spectac-

ular cliffs. In late morning, we still had time to stop at Tennyson Down, named for the poet, less than two miles from the Needles. In Farringford, his house

down, which is marked by a monument where Tennyson used to take his daily exercise, we joined a handful of well-wrapped walkers and their dogs, who were braving a sharp wind with equanimity. But a very short, cold walk was enough to drive us back to the car in search of a classic English Sunday lunch: roast beef, Yorkshire pudding and sherry trifle at the Folly inn, still another waterside pub. down a winding road next to a marina.

After lunch we wandered around the island, passing through several quiet towns and yet more country lanes among fields and pastures. As dusk began to fall, we paused at Shanklin, just up the eastern coast from our inn, for one last seaside walk. Except for one amusement pavilion, everything on the beachfront was closed. Only a few lampposis and the pavilion's blinking lights cast slanting gleams onto the wet sand. As we walked, the beach seemed to stretch for miles in the freshening dark.

Susan Allen Tath, whose most recent book is "England for All Seasons," wrote this for The New York Times.

MOVIE GUIDE

AMERICAN HISTORY X Directed by Tony Kaye, U.S.

Advertisements for the controversy

magnet that is "American History X" seem to be selling Edward Norton's huff physique, savage scowl and swastika tattoo in equal measure. So they reflect the film's bold but reckless synthesis of visual enocement and thetorical fever. Presented in the crsatz poetic idiom of videos and commercials, this is an in flated yet gut-slugging film that dares to address America's neo-Nazi culture with hrutal candor. Its toughest images stick even when its lurid self-aggrandizing spins out of control. Having made his electrifying screen debut with an essentially dual role in "Primal Fear," Norton now plays a two-faceted character with even more fury. He appears as the ideologically double-jointed Derek Vinyard, who begins the film as a hatemongering skinhead only to undergo a total personality transformation. Once Derek renounces his past ("Those guys, the gang, that life — I'm done with it!") the film can consider the lingering residue of bigory. Not surprisingly (the executive producer, Steve Tisch, was also a producer of "Forrest Gump"), it repudiates the same violence it initially exploited in shocking, lovingly slow motion. Though its story elements are all too easily reduced to a simple outline, 'American History X' has enough fiery acting and provocaove bombast to make its impact felt. For one thing, its willingness to take on ugly political realities gives it a substantial raison d'être. For another, it has been directed with a mixture of handsome photo-realism and visceral punch. The filmmaker of record is Tony Kaye, but he has renounced this substantially re-edited version of his work. It's easier to acknowledge the heady mix of flash and conscience that Kaye has created in a manner reminiscent of politically aware hyperstylists from Michael Cimino to Spike Lee, than to know whether suffocatingly melodramatic music, pensive water images and lingering, super-tight close-nps were necessarily the director's own ideas. As written by David McKenna, "American History X" centers on a racist killing that Derek commits with horrifying gusto. It's the kind of film that milks this violence furiously and also tries to heat up this episode by watching Derek in a sexual tryst just before the violence occurs. Though Fairuza Balk plays bis nose-ringed racist sweetie here, the rest of the film brims with the tacitly homoerotic energy of its skinhead bullies. The vastly talented Norton plays him searingly well, but Derek is as thin a straw man as the story's other characters, who are conceived as essentially passive products of their small-minded environment. The film's pivotal figure is Derek's impressionable younger brother, Danny, who has a spongelike interest in everything Derek espouses. Danny, as played with wrenching vulnerability by Edward Fur-

EXAMEN DE MINUIT

Directed by Daniele Dubroux. France. Daniele Dubroux, who made the witty Left Bank boudoir comedy "Le Journal du Seducteur," repairs to the provinces "L'Examen de minuit" (literally 'midnight exam''), with a burlesque cast of mad peasants and raving aristocrats. When Serena, played by Julie Departieu, arrives in a town called Diculefit in response to an ad to marry the lord of the

long, is the film's most blatam reminder

that actions bave consequences, though

this is something most viewers already

(Janes Maslin, NYT)



Edward Furlong, left, and Edward Norton in "American History X."

manor, you wonder what indeed God has wrought. Skinny, knock-kneed, a waif with a crooked smile and a dress that looks hand-sotched out of sequins, polka dots and spit, Serena is hardly made of the stuff a blue blood would consider for breeding purposes, After a quick scene of disillusionment with the aristocrat, she meets Roland, a farmer (Serge Riaboukine), who is smitten to the point that be robs banks to finance their nuptials. But on the wedding night, Serena runs off with Antoine (Francois Cluzett, lord of another castle. Depressive Antoine is a writer who locks Serena in his tower, keeping her on hand for inspiration. Downstairs is his wife, Marianne (Dubroux), the woman behind the throne as it were, and the only serious character in the movie. It doesn't take Marianne long to figure what her husband is up to. and dig into Serena's past, determined to fix them both. Dubroux knows how to plot a film tight and make it look loose. Debutant Depardieu, wrapped in her unbuttoned button-down décolletés, teetering in spike heels, turns, on the stroke of midnight, into a bewitching fairy princess.

[Joan Dupont, IHT]

MEET JOE BLACK

Directed by Martin Brest. U.S. Death be not proud, death be right stupid. "Meet Joe Black," with Brad Pitt, is a near-death experience: Time seems to stop as we stiffeo in our seats and the actors all whisper as if they're at a wake. Martin Brest, the director, obviously embraced that old saw - death is nature's way of telling us to slow down
in making this funereally paced
fantasy about love, loss and peanin butter. Inspired by the 79-minute chestnut "Death Takes a Holiday," this overstuffed, if beautifully mounted, version now plods along for three monotonous hours. The two films share the same premise. Death, who assumes human form to spend some time among the living, unintentionally falls passionately in love. But this time it takes twice as long to tell, given the bloated script. Brest's self-indulgence and the cast's halting delivery. It's as if the actors had three hours to fill, but only two hours of script, so everyhody had to talk . . . real .

... slow ... leaving us plenty of time to ponder the set decoration (1s that Rothko genuine?) and the stars' imperfections. (Is that a pimple on Claire Forlani's nose? Is Brad Pin wearing mascara?) The bladder-impaired will be relieved to learn there's enough time between lines for both a pit stop and a refill at the concession stand. Though the new picture is an improvement over the fusty original, its blithe spirit is not as effective as the 1934 film's ghostly, Gothic tone. Nor is Pitt as well cast as Fredric March, who played Death with Draculalike flair. Pitt gives the almighty and powerful Lord of the Underworld the trusting, childlike demeanor of Forrest Gump and the blinding beauty of an archangel. Pitt is also comically awkward when he first takes over the body of a dashing young lawyer moments after he dies in a car accident. In this guise, he approaches William Parrish (Anthony Hopkins), a dying New York tycoon, with a brief stay of execution in exchange for showing him around. Parrish, the story's true focus, agrees to the arrangement, and from that moment, for Black is on him like lichen on a tombstone. He moves into his palatial estate, joins extended-family meals and invites himself to Partisb's board meetings. Parrish remains a gracious host, content to wrestle with his impending departure until Joe begins to fall for peanut butter and Parrish's favorite daughter (Forlani) begins to make bay with the Grim Reaper. Ostensibly, Death dropped in oo the Parrish clan to learn what it is about life that makes people cling to it so. Cerminly, he found answers within the faniily's opulent community. But wouldn't the lesson have been more meaningful if Joe had visited with a family struggling to make do, but who shares its peanut butter anyway? (Rita Kempley, WP)

 \mathbf{P}_{t}

David and Preter Pourbus. BRITAIN

LONDON

Royal Academy of Arts, tel: (171) 300-8000, open daily. To Dec. 20: "100 Masterpieces ol impenal Chinase Ceramics From the Au Bak Ling Collection." From a private collection in Hong Kong, a selection of wine cups, water vessels, incense burners, pletes and dishes produced under the Song. Yuan. Mind and Qing dynasties.

www.royalacademy.org.uk Tate Gallery, Icl: (171) 887-8000. open daily. To Feb. 28: "in Celebration. The Art of the Country House." A range of works on loan from the great British historic houses: paintings. drawings. sculptures, menuscripls and other historic memorabilie www.tate.org.uk

CANADA

Art Gallery of Ontario, tel: (416) 977-0414, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To Feb. 14: "Art in the Age of Van Gogh: Dutch Paintings From the Riiksmuseum," About 70 Dutch romantic sites, snowy landscapes end beach scenes creeted in the 19th century by Van Gogh, Mondrian

www.ago.net

CHINA

GHOST TOWN

of a literal sort:

THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

\$24. Henry Holt & Co.

Shanghai Museum, tel: (21) 6372-3500, open daily. Continu-

By Robert Coover, 147 pages.

Reviewed by Richard Bernstein

EAR the end of "Ghost Town," Robert Coover's exuberant, word-

rich parody of an American western, a

photographer shows up to take pictures

of a man about to be hanged. What

ensues is a wonderfully brief and witty

takeoff on art criticism, gallows humor

said, spreading out his samples and

compelling attention, that a photograph

of one hanged man has a more mel-

ancholical aspect about it than do those

of groups, though men struog up in

multitudes of a dozen or more not only

provide peculiar challenges and oppor-

tunities for the enterprising photograph-

ist, being less of a stereotype, as might

be said, but they also have a way of

opening up the foreground of pictorial

scrutiny and drawing attention to those

Several of the features of Coover's

new novel are contained in that passage.

There is the utterly deadpan appreciation of the grotesque, for example, and the

comically vemacular elegance of the

writing as well as Coover's almost lub-

ricious sense of the mythic. "Ghost

Town" is a funny, ribald and, as the

photographer might have put it, mel-

ancholical story, set in the sere and sur-

real landscape of a place called the Ter-

ritory. The Territory is a place where

Zane Gray or Louis L'Amour might have

set their stories, and Coover's book is an

affectionate and mostly delicious parody

of what they would have written.

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who have not yet been hanged."

"It was his studied opinion, the man

ing/To Jan. 31: "Zao Wou-Kı: Sixty Years of Painting." Born in Beijing in 1921. Zao Wou-Ki has been living in Paris since 1948 and his abstract oils reflect both European and Chinese traditions.

FRANCE

Grand Palaie, lei: 01-44-13-17-

17. closed Tuesdays. Continuing/ To Jan. 4: "Gustave Moiseu, 1826-1898. Drawings, sketches, water colors and paintings document the works of the French painter (1826-1898). To Jan. 11: "Lorenzo Lotto." A retrospective of 50 paintings by the Venetian Renaissance master (c. 1480-1556). To Jan 25: "Tresois du Musee National du Palais de Taiper -- Memorre d'Empire." A discovery of Chinese art end civ-ilization from the Neolithic period to the 20th century. Toit de la Grande Arche, tel: 01-

49-07-27-57, open daily. To Jan. 31: "L'Ame de le Russie Dans Ses loones." On loan from the Kotomenskove Museum in Moscow, (selection of 50 icons from the 16th and 17th centuries.

GERMANY

Kunsthalle, tel: (421) 32-90-80. closed Mondays. Continuing/_To Jan. 10: "Lucas van Leyden." En grevings and woodcuts of biblical end secular subjects by the Dutch artist (1494-1533). www.kunsthalle-bremen.de

MUNICH Haus der Kunst, tel: (89) 21-127-

157, open daily. To Jan 24: "Lyonel Feininger: Von Gelmeroda nach Manhettan." A voyage through the life and art of Fein-inger; Born in 1871 in New York, he speni 50 yeers in Germany and returned to the United States when the Nazis came to power and he was branded "degenerale."

HONGKONG

University Museum and Art Gal lery, tel: 2859-2114, closed Sundays and holidays Continuing/To Dec. 15: "In the Footsteps of Buddha: An Iconic Journey from India to China." Buddhisi sculpture and painting thet reflect the crosscultural migration of ideas and objects in ancient Asie

ITALY

BOLOGNA Galleria d'Arte Moderna, tel: (51) 50-28-59. closed Mondays. To Feb. 14: "Arte Italiana. Ultimi Quarant'Anni, Pittura Aniconica," One hundred pieces by major exponents of abstract art, from the 1950s to date, with works by Piero

nco Castellani. www.galleriadartemodeme.bo.it/

Manzoni. Giulio Turcato and En-

Palazzo Grassi, tel: (041) 522 9875, open daily, except Dec. 24. 25 and 31, and Jan. 1 Continuing To Mey 18: "I Maya." Six hundred items trace the development of the Maya civilization in Central Ameiand Mexico.

www.palazzograssi.il JAPAN

KITAKYUSHU Kitakvushu Municipal Museum of Art, tel: (93) 882-7777. closed Mondays. To Nov. 29: "Masters of

BOOKS

I say mostly delicious because it is

extremely difficult to sustain a parody

through more than a few pages. Once the

reader gets the joke, the rest has a tend-

ency to become a variation on the theme.

and can get tiresome quickly, Coover's

parody does flag here and there, be-

coming repetitive. His ever-shifting

landscape, a cross between Brett Hart

and Salvador Dali, shifts once or twice

too often. But that is a minor problem.

When Coover reaches a high point, as he does with his photographist, the

point is high indeed, and these points

come frequently enough to rescue the

toward an empty horizon, and within ooe

or two pages, two elements of the book

have already become apparent. One is

Coover's striking gift for language, his.

ability to create a tone in perfect har-

mony with the universe of his story. "No

resistance." our narrator says when the

cowhoy comes across a well and tries to crank its rusty handle. "Like wagging a

dead man's bones." This is a book of

author mimics an archetype hut then

both lampoons and exceeds it. "Beer is

drawn," begins a description of a saloon

in Coover's ghost town. "An ear is torn

off. A bony bald man in a white shirt,

yellow suspenders, and black string tie

hangs out a melody on the grand piano.

against which a huxom rouged-up lady

with wild orange curls leans, singing a song about a good girl who went bad."

Coover's cowboy, never given a

name, dwells in a treacherous, unfeeling

universe, a place where there is not only

overwhelming danger and despair but

tions of the professors. The heart, and South wins with the charge is \$49 for 11 lessons. ace. He plays three top spades.

Information is available at expecting to claim his game. (800) 525-4718 or by e-mail-but then has to think again.

many fine books on the game. enlarge his distributional

His first deal is shown in the knowledge. He now knows

diagram. After a transfer re-sponse to one no-trump, cards in each black suit and at

no-trump, which he did, or diamonds and East has at least

By Alan Truscott

OWADAYS the Inter-net provides almost ev-

erything. Bridge players can

play the game, get informa-tion on Web sites and take

lessons to sharpen their skills.

Bridge Today University of-

fers courses by e-mail that

permit students to ask ques-

ing mattil hridgetoday.com.

One of the professors is

Marshall Miles, the author of

showing spades. South must

decide whether to rest in three

The second element is the mock

constant stylistic inventiveness.

We begin with a lone cowboy riding

book from its moments of languor.

Works by such rench and Belgian ma Tanguy, Magritte and Delvaux. NAGOYA Matsuzakaya Art Museum. To

Dec. 8: "Masterworks from the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection." More than 90 peintings on loan from Mednd that cover Europeen end American painting from the 18th century to the be-

ginning of the 20th. The exhibition

The National Museum of Westarn Art, tel: (3) 3828-5131, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Dec. 6: "Claude Lorrain and the Ideal Lendscape." Sixty paintings. drawings and prints by the 17thcentury French artist, and 90 works by artists of the "Ideal Landscape" ineage, including Turner. www.nmwa.go.jp

NETHERLANDS

De Nieuwe Kerk, lel: (20) 638-6909, open daily. To March 8: "The Splendor of Spain, 1598-1648: From Cervantes to Velasquez. Three hundred ert treasures from Spanish museums illustrate art, culture and the influence of the Catholic church in Spain's Golden Century. Featuree paintings by El Greco, Velasquez and Zurbaran.

RUSSIA

Pushkin Museum, tel: (95) 201 3256. To Jan. 15: "Rene Magritte." Thirty dream-like paintings by the Belgian Surrealist (1898-1967) drawn primarily from the holdings of The Menil Collection in Houston.

SINGAPORE

Singapore History Museum, tel: 332-3659, closed Mondays, Continuing/ To December: "House of Jace: The Aw Boon Hew Collection." Jade carvings from the Oing Dynasty (1644-1811) end jaspe quartz and egate ornaments.

SOUTHKOREA

63 Building, tel: (2) 789-6060, open daily. To Jan. 5: "Greal Adventure Egypt." Under the theme

where mirage and reality blend and in-

terchange constantly and duplicitously.

He sees things that are suddenly behind

him or that continue to recede toward the

horizon as he approaches them. When he

finally enters the town where the action

of "Ghost Town" takes place, it is

empty, as ghost towns are, but soon it is

filled with a motley crowd represen-

half-breeds, lynch mobs, the gunmen

who plug holes in their rivals' hearts as

casually as they would toss back a shot

of red-eye. There is the over-endowed

saloon singer who falls for the cowboy,

the Indians and settlers, rattlesnakes and

mustangs and the desert surrounding the

town like a hostile ocean around an

island. The characters, including the

cowboy, speak in a dialect of the au-

thor's invention that has the feel of

coosists of an ever more farcical series

of adventures, in which the cowboy,

who becomes sheriff, desperately es-

capes the amorous intentions of the sa-

each time Coover invents some new way

for him to be rescued. In the end, a sort of

final confrontation takes place in which

the cowboy voyages through the town,

whose features and inhabitants are seen as if in fun-house mirrors, in an act of

It is a testimony to the power of

Coover's writing that when we take

leave of our hero, we are left with deeper

feelings, about loneliness and the fu-

New York Times Service

to lead to the diamond king and

finesse the 10 on the way back.

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SOUTH (O)

∘ KJ62 ♣Q3

7 K Q 9 0 A 10 4 4 9 5 5 2

Pass Pass Pass

West leads the club jack.

Both sides are vulnerable. The bid

3 N.T

▲ J 10 8 2 7 J 6 S 9 7

4 J 1087

redemptive but unrewarded virtue.

well beyood the usual satire.

The story, insofar as there is a story,

authenticity to it.

mythic quality of a story in which the be hanged or otherwise maltreated, and

BRIDGE

revert to spades. As it

happened, the bad spade split

makes it necessary to guess

the location of the diamond

South plays low from dummy,

and East would be wrong to

play low. He takes his top

honors, and West takes two

more club tricks. He shifts to a

Before committing himself

in the diamond suit. he should

cash two more heart tricks to

He therefore has at most two

least three hearts.

In three no-trump the club

jack is led, and East is alert. himself his best chance.

queen in either contract.

There are the gamblers with scars,

tative of all of the western archetypes.



"knowing the past to understand 9700, open daily. To April 5: "The passes such works as Leonardo's the luture," the exhibition brings to-Magic of Trees." Explores repres-visionary notebooks, paintings by gether items, including some from ment the lives of the pharaohs.

Ho-Am Art Museum, tel: (0335) 20-18-51, closed Mondays, Con-tinuing/ To Dec. 31: "Auspicious Dreems: Decorative Paintings of Korea." A selection of works from the museum's collection

www.hoammuseum.org

SPAIN

BARCELONA undacio Joan Miro, tel: (93) 329-1908, closed Mondays, Feb. 7: "Magritte." A selection of 75 oils, gouaches and drawings arranged to re-lect five recurrent themes in the Belgian artist's couvre: narrative and nystery, chance encounters, metamorphosis, mechanisms of language and picture within the picture.

Guggenheim Museum, tel: (94) 435-90-00. closed Mondays.. To Merch 7: "Robert Reuschenberg: A Retrospective." Brings logether 400 works by the US-born artist (1925). Painting, sculpture, photography, engravings, collage and performance have played a part in hie ellon to merge art, life and www.guggenheim.org/bilbao.html

SWITZERLAND

nut, plum, cherry and ginkgo trees. Cabinet des Estampes, tel: (22) 418-2770, closed Mondays, To Dec. 20: "Pierre Alechinsky," While the painter and graphic artist

entations of trees in modern and confemporary art through paint-

ings and sculptures by Van Gogh. Ferdinand Hodler, Gustav Klimt

and Richard Long. In the gardens of the Foundation, Christo and his

sionism and color, he also experimented with calligraphy: The works exhibited here mix writing. and drawing, humor and poetry.

is often associated with expres

UNITED STATES BOSTON Museum of Fine Arts, tel: (817) 267-9300, open daily, except Thanksgiving. Continuing/ To Dec. 27: "Monet in the 20th Century" More than 80 paintings produced by the French Impressionist from 1900, when he was 60, until his death at age 86 in 1926.

www.boston.com/mfs/monet/

HOUSTON seum of Fine Arts, tel: (713)

639-7300, closed Mondays, To Jan. 10: "A Grand Design: The Art of the Victoria and Albert Museum." 250 works of art that span 2,000 years of anistic achievement from many of the world's major Fondation Beyeler, tel: (61) 645- cultures. The exhibition encom-

visionary notebooks, paintings by Constable, sculptures by Cellini and Pisano; Chinese and Korean ceramics; Sevres porcelain and

NEW YORK ciltan Museum of Art. tel: (212) 570-3951, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Jan: 3: "From Van Eyck to Bruegel: Early Netherland-ish Paintings." A collection of paintings by 15th- and 16th-cen-

rus Christus, Hans Memling, Gerwww.melmuseum.org Morgan Library, tel: (212) 685-0008, closed Mondays and holidays. Continuing To Jan, 10: "Master Drewings from the Her-"Master Drewings from the Her-mitage and Pushkin Museums." More than 100 western European

drawings spanning the 15th to the 20th centuries. Museum of Modern Art, tel: (212) 708-9400, clased Wednesdays. Continuing/ To Feb. 2: "Jackson Pollock." Dripping paint from a stick held ebove the canvas. Pollock wave abstract webs of lines. omamented with spatters of color.

www.moma.org Whitney Nuseum of American Art, tel: (212) 570-3633, closed Mondays and Tuesdays, Continuing/ To Nov. 29: "Mark Rothko." Some 115 works on carvas and paper by the American artist WASHINGTON

Freer Gallery of Art, tel: (202) 357-4880, open daily. To Feb. 7; "Roy

Lichtenstein: Landscapes in the Chinese Style," Between 1994 and 1997, the American Pop artist created paintings, collages and drawings that were influenced by Chinese landscape paintings. Ma dois of various sizes and colors he recreated the monochrometic tones of the Song dynasty views.

CLOSING SOON

Nov. 22: "The Time of the Nebis." Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal. Nov. 22: "Ancient West Mexico: Art of the Unknown Past." Art Institute, Chicago.

Nov. 23: "Crafts of Kyoto in the Taisho Period," National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto. Nov. 23: "Art Now in Japan af Korea." Meguro Museum of

Nov. 23: "Zenzaburo Kojima." Shoto Museum of Art, Tokyo. Nov. 24: "Calligraphy of Japan and Tokyo. . FIREODE

Nov. 22: "Robert Indiana: Retrospective : 1958-1998." Musee d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain, Nice, France. Nov. 22: "Paul Gauguin, 1848-1903." Fondation Pierre Gianedda, Martigny, Switzerland. Nov. 22: "Speed," Whitechapel Art Gallery, London. Nov. 22: "Pierre Alechinsky." Jeu de Paume, Peris.

Compiled by Elisabeth Hopkins

RECORDINGS

. PHILIP CATHERINE, "Guitar Groove" (Dreyfus): The Belgian guitarist Catherine takes John Scofield's mix of John Coltrane and Jimi Hendrix a step further hy adding Django Reinhardt's Gypsy soul into the mix. That's a lot of famous and talented guitar pickers in a row; Catherine heloogs right up there with them.

loon singer. Several times he is about to MICHAEL BRECKER, "Two Blocks From the Edge" (Impulse!): People were arguing about the relative merits of tenormen Coltrane and Sonny Rollins during their prime. Then Mi-

34 Brownish

39 Raced

40 Insight

41 Workplace

42 Like a certain

45 70'S-80'S N 8.A

vem

43 Shoot

where there are

some openings

36 Scammers

38 Where a foot

chael Brecker began to sneak op on them in the 1970s and he has more young imitators than anybody by now. Jeff (Tain) Watts confirms once more his leading position in a long line of post Elvin Jones-cum-Tony Williams drum-

Children of the Famous: . EAGLE-EYE CHERRY, "Desireless" (Polydor):

to Here" (Columbia): Don's son, and Nench's brother.

Eagle-Eye presents a fusion of a sort of

town time and texture plus a number of other influences (Little Feat) peeking in the One thing for sure, the kid's got a fu re. Clint's boy Kyle makes an admirable.

cute country Hendrix presence and Mo-

promising debut as a bass player and leader. He picked an efficient crew including David Sanchez, Oscar Brasbear, Mark Isham and Peter Erskine and 'From There allowed them the scives.

Mike Zwerin/IHT

CROSSWORD

1 Exolic recrea tility of the quest for meaning, that go 16 Frankie Carle's

theme song 17 They'll do for 18 Haifa hiti 20 Bluish white four, so the percentage play is

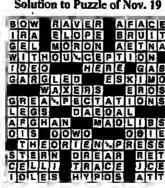
ACROSS

24 Pullman, e o 22 Cnes of mock If West began with a doubleton 23 Rum cakes

diamond queen the result is 26 Byweys Abbr down two, but South has given 28 Ease off 33 God with an

46 "Be present a song 50 Pet ~ 52 Mauna ---55 Temporanh

Solution to Puzzle of Nov. 19



58 Leave an argument unresolved. say 58 Quits working

DOWN 1 Call to attention 2 Cousin of the banjo a Compound with a doubly linked carbon atom

4 Max Ernst collaborator 5 Letters from Greace 6 New name to: 1979

7 Sales force. s Salinger title character 9 It makes ink punk 10 Sheikdom of SOUG

11 Factor in a more healthful diet. maybe kind of ----? 13 Dear. as a

14 Germany's Reservoir Dan 15 Meeting of Cong . 21 Ezra Pound

excitement with 23 Variety hits 26 Praine sights 26 Boil over? 27 African capital whose name

22 Some March

means tamannd tree --- de nuit (cabarets) 30 Alarming felony 34 Tankmate for an angelfish.

division. 34 Crünky ship :: 35 Certain number. Abbr 37 Pauses to rest

42 Cuban dance tunes 44 Mind 45 Stup-dheads 46 At some distance

48 Doesnit call a spade a spade 48 Leave be 50 Lover of Aerieas 51 Poker

52 Money in the

56 Good deal

47 Former Italies

O New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz

53 A Standout for Sec our Friendships 54 Quite a while every Saturday in The Intermarket 57 What makes you



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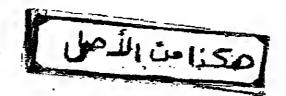
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FREQUENT TRAVELER

GOOD TRAVEL DEALS

The Quest for a Better Deal

By Roger Collis

GROWING number of business travelers are searching for discounted tickets not just in economy but in business and first class. A large majority is happy to use nofrills airlines on short-haul romes — especially in North America and Europe, and an overwhelming majority be-lieves that global airline alliances are a benefit --- because of the range of destinations, better connections, more frequent flights,

and the ability to earn and reeem frequent flier miles on a broader network; and there's. more use of the Internet for flight information, though less than 10 percent of travelers-make on-line bookings.

Market of the same

STALTING.

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These are some findings from the International Air Transport Association's Corporate Air Travel Survey 1998, published last month. The survey reflects the views of more than 1,000 frequent. business travelers from France, Germany, the Netherlands, Britain, Canada, the United States, Australia, Hong.

Kong, Japan and Singapore who had made at least one long-haul trip in the previous 12 months. Interviews were conducted during July amid fears of a

Budgets are starting to be constrained, with more cuts envisaged in the next six months, especially among Asia. Pacific travelers. Twelve percent of (twice as many as in 1997), and 55. percent foresaw no change in the next 12 months. Sixteen percent of Asia Pacific travelers were expecting budget cuts more than three times as many as in 1997 — compared with 13 percent of

Americans and 9 percent of Europeans. But we're still talking about relentless travel. Thirty-nine percent made a trip either once a month or once every two months, and more than a quarter of the sample traveled more frequently.

Conferences (20 percent) and internal company visits (19 percent) are the most common reasons for travel, followed by sales and service calls (17 percent) and marketing trips (14 percent). Asia Pacific travelers were more likely to be attending a conference. Sales and service calls and internal company visits. sleeping less and waiting to line more are more common among very, very



(less for Asians), of whom 49 percent bave substituted it for long-haul trips and 36 percent for short-haul trips. The main motivation is to save time and money. especially for internal company trips.

The search for deals has grown more important since last year, when 55 percent of travelers paid full fare. This year, 40 percent said they paid full fare and 41 travelers expected budgets to be cut percent bought discount tickets. Thirty percent of travelers are using discounted tickets in business and first class, compared with 22 percent a year earlier.

Nearly 85 percent of business travelers are members of a frequent-flier program, and 31 percent belong to more than five. A third of travelers say they always take FFPs into account when choosing an airline, and 18 percent say they never do. The influence of FFPs is strongest in small companies and among individual business travelers and in North America. Two-thirds of all FFP members have redeemed miles. Re-"demption for holiday travel (58 percent) is by far the most popular.

ū Road warriors are working longer. than ever before, according to the American Express 1998 Road Warrior Tech-What is surprising is that 29 percent of nology Study, a recent on-line poll of 546 travelers have used video conferencing business travelers in the United States at: (33-4) 93-74-77-92.

who are regular on-line users and take at least 10 overnight business imps a year.

Sixty-five percent "always or almost always" use a laptop on overnight trips to access or send e-mail - 84 percent at least once a day -and 67 percent say they access the Internet at least once a day during their trip. Twenty-five percent say they usually use a cellular phone to get in touch with the office.

They typically work an average of 11 hours a day, com-pared with 9.5 hours back at the office. More than twothirds call home while away.

Forget the food, it's the schedule and a reputation for safety and punctuality that counts when choosing an airfine, according to the OAG

Business Travel Lifestyle Survev 1998, published by OAG Worldwide this week. The survey is drawn from a sample of 3.000 business travelers from nine countries across North America, Europe and Asia Pacific.

Corporations have taken more control of business travel: Nearly nine out of 10

travelers are bound by some form of corporate travel policy compared with two-thirds in 1997. American and Australian companies are most vigilant in policing policies, being more concerned about enforcing class of air travel than choice of airline. But only three in 10 are restricted in their choice of hotel.

Business travel, it seems, is not for the young. The average age of road warriors is 47 years and only one in 10 is under 35. Australia has the highest proportion of over-55s. And travelers are making longer trips involving more nights away in hotels (45 nights a year on average t.

Italians and Singaporeons are the most frequent international travelers, closely followed by the British and the French. Americans make more air trips than anyone else, but a third of all American frequent travelers have not been abroad on business in the last 12 months.

More people take laptops on trips than ever before — six out of 10 travelers say they will use them in-flight and nine out of 10 in hotel bedrooms. Threequarters had an Internet connection and more than half go on-line while they're away. One third have use the Internet to get travel information: but only 10 percent have used it to book travel.

Roger Collis can be reached by fax

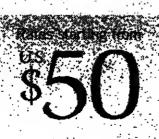


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OPINION/LETTERS

Defense of Human Rights Ought to Be Automatic

By E.J. Dionne Jr.

WASHINGTON — The United States needs a more consistent record on human rights, so each protest and declaration against a foreign leader for his human rights record carries real

Vice President Al Gore caused a ruckus this week when, speaking for the Clinton administration, he rebuked the Malaysian government for putting down dissenters and praised the bravery of those protesting the policies of Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad

Nor did Mr. Gore back down when Mr. Mahathir's enraged government atacked him for 'gross interference in the mernal affairs of the country" and for threatening "harmony and stability." If just ruins a political leader's day to have someone say he should not jail his political opponents or beat them up.

Mr. Gore's comments came at a meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, known as APEC, in Kuala Lumpur. His words need to be seen as part of a long argument between advocates of democracy and leaders of some Asian nations who, when it serves their interests, claim that basic freedoms are a Western cultural import. These leaders use the slogan "Asian values" to allow them to run their countries as they wish, and do to their people what

they want.

That is why one of the important statements in support of Mr. Gore came from President Joseph Estrada of the Philippines, who flatly rejected litural relativism when it comes to liberty. "I don't interfere in Malaysia's domestic problems," Mr. Estrada stated, "but I've said human

rights and due process of law tran-

scend all boundaries."
The joker in the "Asian values" deck is that these values are always invoked by people who hold political power against those contesting them for it.

Condemnations of the West serve as a cover for their own self-interest. Rulers of Communist and fascist states did much the same when they dismissed civil liberties as the creamons of 'bour-

geois democracy."

But whenever the United States govemment does stand up for "human rights and the due process of law," it always risks being criticized for inconsistency and selective moralism. Unfortunately, it is true that the U.S. government is not consistent on these matters - witness the administration's policy toward China.

Advocates of a stronger U.S. commitment to buman rights need to acknowledge an unpleasant fact: There will be times when the United States allies itself with dictators in defense of our its interests, or with an eye toward the long term.

At the extreme, history has vindicated Franklin Roosevelt's decision to ally with Stalin's murderous regime to take down Hitler's murderous regime. Hitler posed the greater immediate threat to freedom and, although it took 45 long years, Communist tyranny in Europe was eventually overthrown.

But those who criticize human rights advocates as simplistic moralists invoke such examples too easily to justify doing business with anybody at any time. It was striking that Rafidah Aziz, Malaysia's trade minister, cited American business people as coming to her



and criticizing Mr. Gore's speech dur-ing the APEC dinner.
'I had American and other friends

حكذا من الأحيا

from APEC, the business sector, the official sector, who came to us and practically apologized and they were disgusted as well." she told The Star. a Malaysian Englisb-language daily. '1 can imagine the embarrassment of the U.S. community here, they are totally

flabbergasted. What is flabbergasting is that those who enjoy freedom would be moved to condemn a vice president who declares that other people deserve the liberties Americans claim as inviolable. You have to hope that some do not prefer doing business in countries with authoritarian regimes, where messy strikes and other human rights demands do not get in the way of production.

Human rights advocates in the United Stares tend to be divided into tuches - those who worry most about

religious liberties, those who care about labor rights, those who belong to the traditional human rights organizations. They span the political world from Christian conservatives to prounion liberals, and include many

people in between. Those who think human rights deserve a higher priority in American policy-making need to sort out their differences and seek a set of consistent principles that might be applied prac-

The bipartisan congressional coalition that supports human rights — one thinks of the powerful California duo of Representative Christopher Cox. a Republican, and Representative Nancy Pelosi, a Democrat — should take the initiative so that such leaders as Mr. Mahathir can no longer claim that America's insistenee on freedom is sporadic, inconsistent and easily dismissed.

The Washington Post

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Swiss Lawsuit

on Jewish Accounts") you re- every freethinking society. relentless critic of Swiss banks and their dealings with Hitler's Germany," was the target of a lawsuit that seeks to charge him with treason.

accusers, most of whom are ap- ship nor imprisonment. parently shareholders of large Swiss banks, is that in his book

blatant effort to persecute a citrutives Sue Critic Who Testified nice that should be repugnant to under the auspices of a U.S. the war. izen for his opinions — a prac-

His offense, according to his response can neither be censor-

Essentially, Mr. Ziegler's op-ponents seek to tamish him for and in testimony before a U.S. exposing the economic collab-

The proposed indicament is a history has recently recorded that Mr. Ziegler is correct. Two reports commissioned

One of the cornerstones of have coocladed - independber of the Swiss Parliament and any democracy is the ability to ently of Mr. Ziegler's obseraccommodate all forms of vations - that there was an speech, unless it incites to violence. Regardless of how ab- Swiss financial institutions and horrent or even incorrect crit- the Third Reich that transcenicism may be, the government ded the obligations of neutrality, affirmatively aided and abetted a belligerent, and had no moral justification.

In the face of these reports, it would appear that Mr. Ziegler's opponents are more interested in

is whether he is prepared to issue an indictment against those who sold Switzerland's soul during

MICHAEL D. HAUSFELD. Washington.

The writer is a partner at the law firm of Cahen. Milstein. Hausfeld & Toll, which led the class-action lawsuit against the Swiss Banks on behalf of Holocaust survivors.

Canadians Only

As a non-Canadian writer, I was amused by the claim of the Canadian minister for eultural heritage, Sheila Copps, that "Canada is also the country

("On the Cultural Ramparts: Celine Dien for Canada!" Meanwhile, Nov. 17), I could paper her office walls with reection slips from Canadian pubishers, magazines and the state radio station reading. Sorry, Canadian authors only. DAVID ZANE MAIROWITZ.

Avignon, France.

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One Diarist's Germans

By Richard Cohen

time, they seemed a mere rumor—the embarrassed by the Nazi regime's embarrassed by the Nazi regime's gutter anti-Semitism and, with a deintellectual during the entire Nazi period in Germany. The diaries were discovered in the 1960s, transcribed in the 1980s, published in Germany to much excitement and, now, published here in America - more than 500 pages of an ordinary life in extraordinary times. As drama, they are plodding. As warning, they are chilling.
Mr. Klemperer did not write "I Will
Bear Wimess" for publication. He had

MEANWHILE

always been an inveterate diarist, persisting even after the Nazis assumed power and it was foolhardy and even life-threatening to do so. He wrote last and above all. He acknowledges because among other things, he was a writer. He wrote because he could not of the sort the Nazis encouraged puzzle things out better that way. In the end, he wrote because it was

his peculiar, personal counterattack, a battle he staged daily: "I shall go on writing. That is my heroism. I will bear witness, precise witness,

He was by no means an ordinary German Jew, In the first place, he was a convert to Protestantism - a Jew only at the insistence of the racist Nazis. His wife was also a Protestant and - another factor that set him apart from many Jews - he had served in a frontline unit during World War I and won the Iron Cross. For these reasons, he was excluded from some of the most oppressive antilewish measures, including, of his life. He survived the war and lived until 1960, a diarist apparently to the

But it is the diary he kept from 1933 to 1945 that eommands our attention. It is full of fascinating detail, not just what you might expect - a reference to Kristallnacht, for instance, or the partition of Czechoslovakia — but the imposition of laws and regulations that slowly asphyxiated the German-Jewish community.

Mobs did their work, of course, and some people were sent to eoncentration eamps, but in the early days the killing often proceeded slowly - first the livelihood, then the pride, then, emigrated. Some killed themselves.

The diary tells another story as well - and maybe it is one peculiar in Mr. Klemperer, although I doubt it. For the most part, he is not mistreated by his countrymen. He encounters ordinary anti-Semitism, of course, but

W ASHINGTON — For years most of the Germans who find their way into his diaries are not rabid lew haters. Some of them, in fact, are

how they feel.

This is important. For as Martin Chalmers, the English translator of the diaries, points out. Mr. Klemperer's experience contradicts the assertions of such scholars as Daniel Goldhagen. who maintains that the Holocaust was a product of a unique and particularly rabid German hatred of Jews eliminationist anti-Semitism, in

Mr. Goldhagen's term. That assertion would come as news to Mr. Klemperer. Instead, he feels he lives in what was once the most benevolent and cultured of all nations. He considers himself a German first. and implemented. I am German and I'm waiting for the Germans to return." he wrote in 1942.

In fact, one of the more striking diary entries relates the time in 1938 when Mr. Klemperer pulls up to a roadside restaurant just as a speech hy Hermann Goering, one of the top Nazis, is being hroadcast: "Not one of a dozen people paid attention to the radio for even a single second," he wrote, "It just as well could have been transmining silence or a fox trot from Leipzig. Occasionally, non-Jews expressed sympathy for him and sent gifts of this or that - cigarenes, food.

In a way, this is bad news, It has always been oddly comforting to course, those that would have cost him ascribe the Holocaust to something peculiarly German - their allegedly extreme anti-Semitism, above all, But Mr. Klemperer is telling us that was not the case: These people are like any others. They are afraid. They have no rights. Dissidents have disappeared.

Eliminationist anti-Semitism appears to be mostly imposed from above. The killers are not necessarily haters. Some are merely cowed con-If that is the case, it means that the

Holocaust was not some exotic and inexplicable event where those weird Germans killed those weird Jews — a comet that will make but one appearance - but an atrocity that could be ultimately, the will to live. Some Jews duplicated. Since it happened in one place once, it could happen in another place again. That is the lesson. The Holocaust, Victor Klemperer's

diaries suggest, tells us a little about Gemians, a little about Jews - but an awful lot about us all.

The Washington Post

penate subcommutee he de- oration of certain Swiss bankers opponents are more microsico bi- canada is also the country by reporting and associated political figures a witch huot than in facing real-heritage, Sheila Copps, that on the business dealings of its with Hider's Germany. His opponents weakness is the fact that the swiss prosecutor banks with the Third Reich. THE INTERMARKET

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he reflected misty-eyed on times past. Fifty years it had been since he had slept with his beloved wife in this very same suite. It had been their wedding night. How he wished she were there now. Half a century ago, and yet it seemed like yesterday. Tears sprang unbidden as recollections of their honeymoon, fresh as the Orehids on the bedside table, bloomed in his memory. The scent and soft eolours of the room captured his reminiscenees eausing time to stand still. A gentle knock at the door roused him from

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1998

Bonn and London in Entente

2 Finance Ministers Call for Growth-Oriented Policies

By Tom Buerkle

LONDON — Britain moved to deepen its rapport with the new Social Democratic govemment of Germany and to increase British influence on European policy as the finance ministers of the two countries issued a joint call for efforts to stimulate growth and employment

Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine of Germany, in a visit to London, refrained from direct festicism of European central bankers, a modconomic manifesto by finance ministers from a socialist governments in the European Union.

Admit of the document has been seized on the conomic manifesto by finance ministers from a socialist government in the European Union. recent rhetoric calling for lower interest rates. British officials insisted that new growth initiatives would not undermine price stability or

European rules on deficit spending.

"We have a great degree of price stability," Mr.

Lafontaine said. "But unemployment is too high, and we know what we need to do is create jobs." Gordon Brown, the chancellor of the Exchequer, said the joint call was consistent with a recent agreement by the Group of Seven nations that deflation now posed a greater risk to industrial economies than inflation did. But be pointedly differed with Mr. Lafontaine over recent German calls for tax harmonization in Europe.

During a 90-minute meeting, the two men agreed to establish a joint Anglo-German working group on job creation and economic reform. ing group on job creation and economic reform. growth and employment merely reiterated the rethe effort mirrored an effort on social reform set. cent policy shift inside the Group of Seven nations,

"Lafontaine is beginni guage," one official said.

up by Prime Minister Tony Blair and Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder two weeks ago and under-lined the British government's attempt to use the new Anglo-German entente to get to the heart of

European policy.

The two also discussed an initiative to more closely coordinate economic policies to promote growth and employment in Europe and to demand greater transparency on monetary policy by the European Central Bank. The initiative was to be cemented this weekend with the adoption of an economic manifesto by finance ministers from 11

A draft of the document has been seized on by some newspapers and opposition politicians here as evidence that Britain was joining a German-led move in favor of stimulative economic policies, including more government spending and calls for lower interest rates.

The draft does call on the European Central Bank, which will manage monetary policy for the 11 nations adopting the single currency Jan. 1, to "conduct a monetary policy for the euro area following the goal of price stability, taking into consideration growth and employment." It also urges the bank to be transparent in the conduct of monetary policy and to give regular accounts of its actions to the European Parliament.

But British officials noted that the emphasis on



Gordon Brown, chancellor of the Exchequer, right, welcoming Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine to London on Thursday.

which agreed that deflation posed a greater risk in the industrial world today than inflation did.

The bulk of the document, which was initiated and largely written by Mr. Brown's special adviser, Ed Balls, was classic New Labour policy, British officials said. It stresses a need to mix stable macroeconomic policies with structural reforms to spread opportunity, including better edu-cation, welfare reforms that encourage work, and reforms of capital and product markets to improve the functioning of the single European market.

British officials welcomed the recent moderation of Mr. Lafontaine, who denied this week that he was trying to pressure the Bundesbank into lowering interest rates, and who pledged earlier Friday, in Italy, to adhere to the debt and deficit rules under monetary union.

"Lafontaine is beginning to change his lan-

Paris Bourse Set to Join Club

France to Hold Meeting on a Pan-European Market

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

LONDON - Struggling to avoid being sidelined in the Cononent-wide equioes market promised by Europe's soon-to-be-launched single currency, French anthorities indicated Thursday that the Paris stock exchange intended to join an alliance between London and Frankfurt seen as the precursor of a pan-European exchange.

The Paris Bourse announced it would play host to a meeting next Friday, inviting eight other European exchanges to discuss "the steps and conditions needed to create a unifying and competitive pan-European equity market.

The announcement illuminated the way the introduction of the new currency, the euro, is reshaping Europe's financial landscape, forcing Europeans to think in continental rather than national terms both in finance and business.

It also suggested that exchange authorities in Paris, piqued by the announcement in July of a "strategic alliance" between the London Stock Exchange and the Deutsche Boerse in Frankfurt, had not only abandoned an effort to set up a rival exchange but were also seeking to gain the initiative by convening the gathering.

French finance minister, said, "Paris is joining and Zurich.

this alliance with the creation from January 1999

But officials in both London and Frankfurt of a joint company.

who welcomed the idea in principle — declined to say whether the timing and the arrangements were as advanced as the French official implied. "I'm afraid I can't confirm anything like that," a representative of the London Stock Ex-

change said.
"The appearances are well ahead of the reality at this point," said an American banker, who

spoke in return for anonymity. "There are an awful lot of issues to be resolved," the banker added.

The euro is to be introduced in electronic trading, such as equities, bonds and futures dealings and intergovernmental transfers, on Jan. 1, although markets will not open until Jan. 4. Notes and coins in the new currency are to be introduced in 2002.

Initially, the currency will group 11 of the 15 European Union nations, leaving Britain, Denmark, Sweden and Greece on the outside. With its concentration of banking and trading, bowever, London is still expected to continue as the principal financial center in Europe.

The eight exchanges invited by the Paris Bourse to discuss creating the pan-European timing and technicalities of the French entry into the alliance. Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan, Stockholm

What Ails China? Drug Prices Costs of Western Firms' Products Stretch Budgets

By Elisabeth Rosenthal

New York Times Service

BEHING — When Sun Lilin emerged from Beijing Children's Hospital, her pockets bulged with bottles of syrup and her hands juggled a tower of boxes containing powders and pills. She had brought her 5-year-old daughter to the clinic with a cough. She left with two Chinese

cold syrups, a potent broad-spectrum antibiotic, an inhaler and a little round device that jets powdered medicine into the lungs.

The relationship between western companies and China's doctors has helped introduce valuable drugs and equipment into China, which generally drugs and china, and

and hospitals not only with new pills but also with gifts, moncy and even kickbacks, practices that are banned in the United States. Their goal: to gain access to China's 1.2 billion potentially ailing citizens; many of whom have a seemingly un-

shakable belief in the curative power of namebrand Western pills. In response, Chinese doctors prescribed hundreds of millions of dollars of mostly expensive in hope of a favorable story. motive as well: Cash-strapped Chinese hospitals are quite common in China, "one industry repare allowed to sell medicines their doctors pre-Western medicine last year. But they have another scribe at a profit, and the profit is far greater when

doctors prescribe expensive Western drugs. "There is a strong interest group forming of drug companies, hospital managers and doctors, said Qiu Renzong, a professor of bioethics at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. "In China, we produce some equally effective medicines, but doctors don't prescribe them anymere. The result is a heavy financial burden on the patients.

Drug sales have become a rich cash source for Chinese hospitals in the past two years, accounting for around 60 percent to 80 percent of their revenues, officials say. Although there are hundreds of Chinese drug companies producing traditional and Western-style medicine, medicine made by foreign or joint-venture companies now punts for well over 50 percent of prescriptions eijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

Today, foreign drug and medical equipment companies pay for Chinese doctors to study overseas, buy hospitals new furniture and provide airline tickets and hotel vouchers for conferences. In an even more controversial practice, the companies commonly pay hospital administrators and individual doctors "commissions" for stocking and prescribing their drugs, although such payments are sales business cannot be dealt with overnight."

against corporate policies and are illegal in China. Drug representatives who work in China like to

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"If a pill sells for 5 ynan [60 cents], often more than half of that is spent to give little red packets containing cash to the hospital director of purchasing, to the pharmacy manager and a bit to the doctors themselves," said Li Ning, vice president of Beijing's Chaoyang Hospital.
'Of course hospitals have regulations banning

kickbacks," said Mr. Li, a young general surgeon who studied hospital administration at the University of Minnesota, "But this is hard to catch, and we know the rules are not very effective."

The relationship between Western companies medicines cost \$60 — half a month's salary — and China's doctors has helped introduce valualmost all of it for the three Western drugs.

"The medicine has gotten so expensive I really can't afford it," said Ms. Sun, a red-checked cleaning woman in a middle school echoing.

cleaning woman in a middle school, echoing a complaint of virtually everyone in China these days. "But, of course, she's my only child. And she's sick. I buy her the best."

Imported Western pharmaccuticals have taken Imported Western pharmaccuticals have taken China by storm, straining pocketbooks as they hold out promises of cure. The denouement of nearly every doctor visit in China today is the prescription of a small pharmacy's worth of this progression be they nonsedating ments to doctors. He said the company followed prescription of a small pharmacy's worth of this year's hottest medicines, be they nonsedating antihistamines or daily high-blood-pressure pills.

Such sales have been buoyed by a new and unlikely symbiosis: Western drug companies white been aggressively courting China's doctors have been aggressively courting China's doctors have been aggressively courting China's doctors and been aggressively courting China's doctors and been aggressively courting China's doctors.

Privately, many in and out of the industry acknowledge that young Chinese sales repre-sentatives, far from corporate headquarters, often flout conduct codes. "Hong bao," or little red envelopes stuffed with cash, are a semi-institutionalized part of Chinese life, at times offered to surgeons for operations as well as to journalists

"Practices that would not be O.K. in the West resentative said. 'And it's not just international drug companies — the Chinese companies are

But Western companies have more money, and their incentives are tempting to doctors who often make just \$120 a month and who, without their help, would have little opportunity to read foreign medical journals or go to conferences overseas. Moreover, ever since China's hospitals lost the last of their formerly bage government subsidies last year, Western drug sales have become es-

sential for balancing hospital budgets.

While there are tight price controls for Chinese-made medicines, hospitals are allowed to set their own prices for Western drugs. Some state workers still have health plans that cover the cost of drugs, but many more now pay for medicines themselves or get only a small fraction of the costs paid by

Cities such as Shanghai and Beijing recently started requiring patients covered by state insurance plans to pay for any Western drugs. This month, the State Development Planning Commission said it would issue regulations to reform the drug-pricing system — for the third time in three years. But it added that "the consequences of the hospitals sales business cannot be dealt with overnight."



Visitors leaving a Beijing hospital where costly foreign drugs are often prescribed.

emphasize their role as educators. But Western doctors who have attended recent Chinese medical conferences say they are shocked to see the representatives sometimes giving the central lectures at what are billed as impartial scientific meeongs.

"It is like the Wild West with a lot of flagrantly

unethical behavior and few rules," said one doctor, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Mr. Li, the hospital vice president, said he disliked the close relationship between bospitals and drug companies, even though that relationship now keeps his hospital affoat. "Now the state

gives us policies but no money," be said, "so, for survival, the hospital has to have more patients and prescribe more drugs and scans." Urban Chinese are avid hospital-goers and have a strong bias toward treating ailments with a tonic or pill. After a spate of newspaper exposés

about counterfeit pills and poor quality control at some Chinese pharmaceutical plants. many people have grown at least a bit suspicious of domestic products. In addition, whether in handbags or medicines, the Chinese are fond of name brands, leaving Western pills with gangbuster sales and Chinese hard-pressed to afford them.

Economic Turmoil Means Lower Expectations for APEC

Difficult Meeting Forces a 'Reality Check' on Goals

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune

KUALA LUMPUR - As the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum enters its 10th year after a sometimes stormy meeting here of national leaders and other high-ranking officials, the group seems to be grappling with political, trade and financial problems that are

either too big or too hot for it to handle. But as the heat and dust started to settle Thursday, some officials and analysis said that the buffeting the group had received might

NEWS ANALYSIS rum out to be a useful reality check, for the organization and its critics alike.

People had unrealistically high expectations, 'said Prime Minister John Howard of Australia. "They have undergone a reality check, but that doesn't mean to say there isn't still enormous benefit and a great deal to be

derived from the organization. In the heyday of supercharged growth and booming trade in the region, it v easy for APEC governments to cut tariffs and open markets, analysis said. But now that many countries and industries are being hurt by the current economic slowdown and unemployment is rising, it is more difficult to ignore

demands for protection of national interests. "h's not surprising that trade liberalization has not only become less important for APEC but more thorny," said Andrew Fung, an economist

at Standard Chartered Bank in Singapore. While the leaders of the 21 APEC member economies failed to produce a concrete plan of their own to deal with the region's financial

crisis, they issued a broadly worded pledge at the end of their meeting Wednesday to pursue a "cooperative growth strategy" to hasten

economic recovery.

They also "renewed" their commitment to a 1994 plan agreed to in Bogor, Indonesia, to achieve free and open trade and investment within APEC by 2010 for developed nations and 2020 for the rest.

"It's notable that despite the pressure of this crisis, the momentum for liberalization in this region is very much intact," a senior U.S. official said. "It may look as if it's slowed in some sense, but what's significant is that it's still moving forward."

Nonetheless, the continued trade opening now being sought by President Bill Clinton of the United States as he visits Japan will be difficult to achieve, other officials and analysts warned.

Among the "too-hot-to-handle" issues passed on to other organizations by APEC this week was a fast-track liberalization plan to eliminate tariffs on trade valued at \$1.5 trillion in nine sectors.

The plan was agreed in principle by all APEC members a year ago, before the full force of the financial crisis hit the reg in Kuala Lumpur, Japan adamantly refused to include two of the agreed sectors wood products - in the tariff-elimination plan. Both of those sectors are represented by politically powerful constituencies in Japan.

Under a compromise deal worked out by APEC ministers, the issue was pushed to the World Trade Organization, with U.S. officials saying there was a good chance a global accord covering all nine sectors could be

See APEC, Page 19

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Deutsche Bank Forms On-Line **Trades Venture**

OMAHA, Nebraska Ameritrade Holding Corp., an on-line trading company, and Deutsche Bank AG, the biggest German bank, said Thursday they had formed a joint venture to allow customers to trade on-line in European and U.S. securities markets. With the agreement, Amer-

itrade's U.S. customers will be able to buy and sell about 200 German stocks and selected European shares through Deutsche Bank, while Deutsche Bank's on-line customers will be able to buy and sell stocks of U.S. companies through Americade.

The two companies expect the service to begin operations by the end of March, said Neil Benedict, vice president for international development at Ameritrade.



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Very briefly:

 American Airlines Inc. agreed to buy Reno Air Inc. for \$124 million in cash as the second-largest U.S. carrier tries to re-establish its footing on the West Coast.

 PanAmSat Corp., which suffered a much-publicized satellite failure this year, said battery problems in another satellite had caused service disruptions and could lead to customers canceling contracts but would not affect overall business. The chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Com-

mission, Arthur Levitt, condemned U.S. companies that reveal market-moving information to securities analysts before releasing it to the public, saying the practice was "cheating, and a stain upon our market.'

 Occidental Petroleum Corp. plans to cut 500 more jobs over the next two years and reduce capital spending by 21 percent next year because it expects oil prices to remain low. The latest job cuts bring Occidental's three-year total of job eliminations to more than 1,000. • BMW Manufacturing Corp. has suspended tours of the

plant's South Carolina assembly line until next year to conceal preparations to build a new sport-utility vehicle, the X5.

Nymex and Oil Market Discuss Link

NEW YORK - The New York Mercantile Exchange and Londog's International Petroleum Exchange, for the second time in a year, said Thursday they were considering a merger that would create a monopoly in energy futures trading. A merger would consolidate the Nymex's position as the

world's leading energy market and would make it easier for the exchange to find new business overseas.

| It'll give the exchange a foothold in Europe and any time we have a chance to get into other businesses and clientele it's a | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| good thing," said Michael Cardelfe, owner and president of Arb Oil Inc., the largest independent brokerage on the Nymex. | 1 |
| | • |

| The Trib in | Prices : | Prices as of 4:00 PM. New York time. | | | |
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| Jan. 1, 1992 = 100 | Level | Change | Kehange | year to date %charge | |
| World Index | 191.63 | + 1.99 | + 1.05 | + 11.34 | |
| Regional Indexes | | | | | |
| Asia/Pacific | 90.00 | + 0.57 | + 0.64 | 6.32 | |
| Europe | 221.07 | + 3.42 | + 1.57 | + 14.52 | |
| N. America | 267.11 | + 1.97 | + 0.74 | + 23.67 | |
| S. America | 93.54 | 1.75 | -1.84 | — 38.73 | |
| Industrial Indexes | | | | | |
| Capital goods | 270.58 | + 3.46 | + 1.30 | + 30.99 | |
| Consumer goods | · 240.77 | + 2.43 | + 1.02 | + 14,80 | |
| Епегру | 196.51 | 0.62 | - 0.31 | + 0.80 | |
| Finance | 130.53 | + 1.99 | + 1.55 | + 6.16 | |
| Miscelianeous | 179.55 | + 4.73 | + 2.71 | + 19.80 | |
| Raw Materials | 169.92 | + 0.46 | + 0.27 | + 1.60 | |
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Microsoft Starts to Sell Stake in RealNetworks

SEATTLE — Microsoft Corp. began Thursday to sell its 10 percent stake in RealNetworks Inc., whose chairman complained before a Senate hearing this summer that Microsoft had tried to "break" his Internet multimedia software.

Microsoft denied that spite was the motive for the sale, but it acknowledged that its relationship with RealNetworks bad soured. "I think it's fair to characterize it

as a fairly rocky relationship for some time," Anthony Bay, general manager of Microsoft's Commercial Systems Division, said this week. The decision to sell will result in a profit for Microsoft. It paid about

is now worth about \$140 million. RealNetworks shares fell \$4.75 to close at \$38.125 on the Nasdaq stock market, while Microsoft climbed \$2

NEW YORK - Share prices rose

The Dow Jones industrial average

closed 14.94 points higher at 9,056.05, and the Standard & Poor's

500 index ended 8.13 points higher

at 1,152.61. Gaining issues out-

numbered losing ones by a 4-to-3 ratio on the New York Stock Ex-

change. The strength of the tecb-

Thursday, led by technology

companies on optimism about the

sector's growth prospects.

and video sent over the Internet. \$30 million for its stake in Real-Networks in July 1997, and the stock

of the market.

er in technology used to send sound and video over the Internet. It competes directly with Microsoft's Windows Media Player. RealNetworks says it has aboot an 85 percent share

Microsoft took the stake in Realthe software powerhouse said it would work with RealNetworks to ensure that Microsoft's Netshow streaming software worked with RealNetworks' RealAudio and RealVideo software, which Microsoft licensed. Streaming technology allows users to see and hear audio

But in July, Rob Glaser, Real-Networks' chairman and founder, told a U.S. Senate committee that Microsoft's video-streaming software had been designed to "break" RealNetworks' software. Mr. Glaser, a former Microsoft

executive, said some consumers found that his company's product did not work once they downloaded Mi-

gology sector showed up in the Nas-

daq composite index, which rose

ternet stocks, and they will move

higher," said Dan Veru, president of Awad & Associates.

"The leadership is clearly the In-

Several recent initial public of-

ferings of Internet issues have

skyrocketed, and other stocks are

rising on optimism that the year-end

holiday season will bring a boom in

on-line shopping.

22.22 points to close at 1,919.66.

Technology Stocks Keep Wall Street Afloat

crosoft's video-streaming software. chines Corp. to integrate audio and Mr. Glaser is one of a string of video into e-mail. executives - including represen-

tatives of Netscape Communica- censed Intel Corp.'s streamingtions Corp. and Apple Computer Inc. testifying at the government's dia player, and said America Online antitrust trial of Microsoft — who Inc. would distribute its software to Networks in July 1997. At the time, have alleged that the software giant AOL subscribers. wrote software to be incompatible. with their products. Microsoft denies the allegations.

Microsoft engineers said a bug m RealNetworks' software caused the incompatibility, an argument supported by some industry experts relationship with the two companies who ran independent tests.

Microsoft said it would keep its competing in others. license for the RealNetworks technology, which came with its 10 percent stake. But Mr. Glaser said the technology that Microsoft licensed had been rendered outdated in the 'exploding" Internet market.

Networks has disclosed other strategic alliances. In October, it linked of moved toward the competitive up with International Business Ma- side.

store said it bad signed an agreement

to be a featured retailer on the Web

would strengthen through year-end. But gains in the broader market

were limited by a report from the Federal Reserve Bank of Phil-

adelphia that showed a decline in

business at regional factories in

Intel rose 3 to 112% on signs that

site of Lycos.

Bluefly rose 3 7/16 to 11 5/16. November. It was the third straight

after the Internet designer outlet month of decline, a sign that U.S.

demand for personal computers ufacturing index report shows a con-

In September, RealNetworks livideo technology for use in its me-

And Netscape has released a new version of its Internet browser that includes RealNetworks' multimedia software.

Mr. Bay said Microsoft's deal with RealNetworks set up a delicate working together in some areas and

Before long, it was obvious the two companies were headed in different directions, Mr. Bay said. "We ended up with sort of di-

verging business strategies," Mr. Bay said. "We had a combination of In the past three months, Real- a competitive and cooperative relationship and the balance had sort

manufacturers are still suffering the

effects of the global economic slow-

tinuing decline in activity, and that

U.S. STOCKS

points to a near-term decrease in

corporate earnings, said James Ellman, portfolio manager of AIM

Global Financial Services Fund.

The report lifted Treasury bond

prices because it suggested that there was little risk of inflation and more

chance for further interest-rate cuts

The price of the benchmark 30-

year issue closed 9/32 point higher

at 100 4/32, sending the yield down.

to 5.24 percent from 5.25 percent

volume during the recent stock rally had been light, a sign that investors

may not be convinced that all the

"It's not a red flag yet, but it may be waving a little bil of a yellow flag in our face," said Charlie Crane, chief investment officer at Key As-set Management. "Things like the

lowish volume and the speculative

frenzy in Internet stocks are signs that are deserving of our respect."

market turmoil was over.

Analysts noted that trading

Wednesday.

from the Federal Reserve Board.

'Clearly, the Philadelphia man-

Yen Rises On Hopes

fell against the yen Thursday after Japanese politicians said they would consider additional

cratic Party said it had agreed to form a coalition with the Liberal Party, which is in favor of using deep tax cuts to pull the econ-

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

ciple, raising hopes that the co-alition would agree to cut the 5 percent consumption tax. which many economists have said is stifling consumer speeding and preventing a recovery. There was an incredible demand for the Japanese yen

senior trader at Sanwa Bank.

short of saying the consumption tax would be cut, however. The secretary-general of the Liberal Democratic Party, Yoshiro, Mori, said that for the moment, the LDP was committed only to using the proceeds of the tax to

yen Wednesday.

Dealers said traders buying yen with marks also had pushed

other Emopean currencies.
The dollar rose to 1.6859 DM from 1,6766 DM and to 5,6555 French francs from 5,6185 francs. It also rose to 1.3867

francs. The pound slipped to \$1.6655 from \$1.6707.

policy making council met also supported the dollar against the German currency. The dollar also got a lift from news that the the research institute's index of Western German business confidence fell in October to its lowest level since December 1996.

High-Tech Security: Look Here to Log On

By Paul Floren nal Herald Tribune

LAS VEGAS - They say the eyes are a window onto the soul. At Vegas. Comdex this year, eyes can actually open windows

IriScan Inc. of Marlton, New Jersey, has developed technology that identifies people by the patterns of their iris. Iris recognition ### [3] rivals DNA tests in reliab-ility, the company claims, and yet 1999, down from an initial price of

identifies an individual in seconds using a video-based imaging proess. word-oriented, and that's not good enough anymore with the Internet,"

The IriScan product can even out enough anythore with the interior, developed ferentiate between twins with said Frank Dzubeck, president of that identifies users by voice.

Previous Law Close 21352.17 1366.59 8 633.24 645.74 5 255.84 256.69 1 123.00 124.26 21133.07 1144.48 6 558.74 564.63

AMEX

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Today 4 P.M. 1376.82 643.35 256.03 125.23 132.61 568.62

identical DNA, said John Siedlarz, Communications Network Archipresident of IriScan, who was showcasing his product at Comdex, the annual computer trade show in Las The main use for such

'biometric identity" technology is for security. The focus right now is for business applications, and the price is supposed to come down to about \$1,500 per

"Security has always been pass-

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PORK BELLIES (CMER) 40,000 Bh. cents per B. Reb 99 44,65 43,60 43,67 Mar 99 44,25 43,40 43,67 May 99 45,75 45,15 45,22

9.72 8.43 8.45 8.45

tects Inc., a consulting firm in Washington. "What we see today is the start of an entire industry based og biometric security."

IriScan software runs on any Windows-based personal computer. A tiny camera mounted on the side of a computer scans a user's iris. before allowing the computer to be turned on or giving access to certain files or network privileges. Biometrics is also advancing in

voice-print technology. Veritel Corp. of America, based in Chicago, in a parmership with Ingram Micro Corp. of Santa Ana, California, has developed Voicecrypt, a program

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AP)-

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| | Est acies 4460 Warts some # 000 | Mor 99 2255 22 Apr 99 2190 21 Moy 99 2165 21 |
| | Wed's Open let 63,345, up 297 | May 99 2165 21 |
| 14360 | GERMAN MARK (CAMER) 125,000 monts, 5 per mont. Dec 94 9970 5726 5732 0.0041 94,579 | Est. soles N.A. Wed? Wed's open int 244,10 |
| 676 195 993 | Dec 98 | UNLEADED GASO |
| 993 | Jun 99 5977 -0.0041 1,1994 Jun 99 5977 -0.0041 1,170 Est, soles 14,842 Weeks trains 14,845 | 42,000 gal. cants per Dec 91 37.95 37 Jon 99 39.20 38 Feb 97 40.30 40 |
| | Est. sales 14.842 Wed's tales 14.945 Wed's open int 95,771, off 1, 109 | MARYY 41.35 40 |
| Previous | JIMPARIESE YEN (CIMEN) 12.5 million yen 3 per 100 yen | Mar 99 45 60 45 |
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| 4190 | JUB 99 7744 A 0000 99 | |
| 4250 | Est soles 10,874 Weets ages 8,257 Weets open int 24,491, up 1,499 | Api 99 117.50 116 May 99 N.T. N |
| 5450.00 5410.00 | MEGCAN PESO (CMERO | Est. toles: 18,700 |
| 966Vz | 500,000 pesm, 3 per peso Dec 98 | |
| 984.00 | | BRENT OIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per come Jon 99 |
| Op let | Est. soles 1,776 West's soles 1,444 Wests open int 25,871, up 1,22 | Feb 99 12.07 11. Mor 99 12.34 12 |
| | 2-MONTH STERLING (LIPER) | Apr 99 12.59 12. May 99 12.84 12 Jun 99 12.09 12. July 99 13.32 12. |
| ٠. | 2500,000 - pts of 100 pct Dec 98 93.250 93.270 93.230 - 0.010 201,740 | Jun 99 12.09 12. |
| 1,629 · 368 · | Jon 99 94.180 94.780 93.780 tinch 164.814 | Est. soles: 47,500 Prev. open lot.: 243,30 |
| 360 30 | Ses 97 94.390 94.290 94.315 0.005 144.436 Dec 97 94.330 94.270 94.295 0.005 144.436 | |
| • | Mor 00 94.370 94.330 94.330 +0.010 113.531 | STOCK SP COMP INDEX (C |
| | Dec 98 3229 9230 70,220 201,740 May 99 92,200 92,740 92,800 Unch. 164,814 May 99 92,800 92,740 92,800 Unch. 164,814 May 99 94,200 94,200 94,200 94,215 -0.005 144,425 Dec 99 94,220 94,220 94,235 -0.005 144,425 May 00 94,230 94,230 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94,330 94 | 250 x index Dec 98, 11 th manage |
| 287,989 | Est soies: \$1,322. Pres estes: 94,402 | Dec 98 1152.801147. Mar 99 1149.001159. Jon 99 1172.501172. |
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For Tax Cut NEW YORK — The dollar steps to help pull the economy out of recession. The governing Liberal Demo-

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TORLD STOCK

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Will be a street

omy out of recession. Prime Minister Keizo Obu-

chi said the party agreed with

the Liberals' policies in prin-

against both the dollar and the Deutsche mark," said Jeff Yn,

The government stopped

bolster welfare spending.
The dollar fell to 119.60 yen in 4 P.M. trading from 121.60:

the dollar higher against the Deutsche mark and against most

Swiss france from 1:3795

The Bundesbank's decision to leave rates unchanged after its

INTERNAT

EUROPE

Telecom Italia's 'High-Tech Junkie'

ENI's Turnaround Artist Takes Over at Troubled Phone Giant

By Yaroslav Trofimov

took over Thursday as chief exknows more about turnarounds. thao about telephones.

Nazionale Idrocarburi SpA. Europe's No. 3 oil company. In six rallying 51 percent on hopes that a years as chief executive, Mr. Bernew CEO would put things right nabe took ENI public and made it. The stock closed Thursday in Miunits, setting up foreign alliances and slashing costs. He faces similar challenges at Telecom Italia.

Italy's dominant telephone-ser- of repeating his ENI performance. vice provider misled investors at Telecom Italia. about its earnings and suffered. 'At 50, a man has to change a wife or a job — and I'm very fond liances unraveled in the year since. of my wife," he said. the state sold control. Investors now expect Mr. Bernabe's management executive a "high-tech junkie" be- Italia's management, even as rivals talent to outweigh his lack of ex- cause of his passion for the Internet

perience in telecommunications. "Bernabe has already shown he ogy to raise productivity. can transform an Italian state di-

Fontana, a fund manager at Royal &

ROME — Franco Bernabe, who Sun Alliance Fondi in Milan. sook over Thursday as chief ex- Since last Thursday, when spececutive of Telecom Italia SpA, ulation surfaced that Mr. Bernabe Ciampi announced Mr. Bernabe's would be named chief executive, ENI's stock has risen 8.8 percent. Mr. Bernabe, 50, comes to Tele-Shares in the former state telephone com Italia, Italy's biggest com- monopoly, which was sold to the pany, from the state-run Ente public in October 1997, fell 22 percent in the next 12 months before

profitable by selling marginal lan at 12,880 lire (\$7.59), up 310. Mr. Bernabe said in a Italian newspaper interview that he had been attracted by the "challenge"

and for introducing new technol-

Mr. Bernabe owes his new job to

efficieoroil companies, and we hope com Italia's biggest sbareholder, he can pull it off again," said Marco with a 5 percent stake, and owns 37 percent of ENL, where it appoints the majority of board members,

Treasury Minister Carlo Azeglio new job Saturday, while Telecom Italia's board formally made him chief executive with "wide-ranging management powers" Thursday.

The government feared that future sales of state companies would be undermined after Telecom Italia's stock plunge last month left its 1.5 million retail investors counting losses a year after taking part in Franco Bernabe, Telecom the nation's biggest state-asset sale. Telecom Italia, the world's

eighth-largest phone company, trails its rivals in forging alliances with foreign partners. Planned links with AT&T Corp., Cable & Wireless PLC and Unisource NV f my wife," he said.

all collapsed this year amid cooinsurance and real-estate units.

Mr. Bernabe's friends call the cern about the stability of Telecom slash 8,000 jobs and cut costs. such as Deutsche Telekom AG and the company's turf in Italy.



already in place similar to the one be implemented at ENI. In September, the phone company announced plans to sell telecommunications equipment, cable,

Italia's new chief executive.

Last month, Telecom Italia's top management warned labor unions France Telecom SA encroached on that 1999 profit might decline, then denied the report when it was At Telecom Italia, Mr. Bernabe leaked to the press, and finally had nosaur into one of the world's most the Italian Treasury, which is Tele- will find a restructuring agenda to acknowledge its autheoticity.

French Bank Posts a Gain

PARIS - Societe Generale posted a slight increase in nine-month profit Thursday despite the impact of trading in Russia and Asia, and the second-biggest bank in France said the worst impact from emerging markets had passed.

The bank's shares rose sharply finishing on the Paris Bourse at 780

frages (\$138.83), up 35. Operating profit was 11.6 billion francs in the period that ended Sept. 30, up from 11.4 billion francs a year

Any third-quarter losses in Asia and Russia could be mostly covered by what had been set aside from firsthalf profit, the bank said, with only limited further adjustments likely for commitments in Malaysia. Thailand and Indonesia "unless the situation deteriorates." In the first half, 7.3 billion francs were set aside for losses on assets, including 3.1 billion francs for Asia and 2.5 billion francs (AFX, Bloomberg) for Russia.

An Iranian Barbie?

Bluemberg News TEHRAN - The government

said Thursday it would make brotherand-sister dolls called Sara and Dara to replace Mattel Inc.'s "culturally invasive" Barbie and Ken dolls. Iran will iotroduce the dolls in February on the 20th anniversary of the Islamic revolution, the official

Iranian press agency, IRNA, report-ed. Barbie and Ken were banned from Iran in 1996. "Sara and Dara will reflect strict Iranian society." IRNA quoted Majid Qaderi of Iran's Institute for Intellectual Development of Children as saying.

Although Barbie and Ken were marketed as "friends," Sara and Dara will be sister and brother to conform to Islamic laws on socializing between men and women.

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Very briefly:

 KPN NV. a Dutch telecommunications company, plans to team up with Qwest Communications International Inc. of the United States to build and operate a high-capacity European fiber-optic network linked to Owest's North American backbone. The venture would propel KPN into the market for carrying Internet communications.

 Storehouse PLC reported flat first-half earnings and warned that full-year profit would be down. The British retailer said pretax profit for the period ended Oct. 10 was unchanged at £38.7 million (\$64.8 million) as total sales rose 2 percent, to £648.3 million.

Merck KGaA plans to take over CN Bioscie oces Inc. of the United States in an offer valued at about \$150 million. The German pharmaceuticals company also said sales in the first three quarters of 1998 rose 3.1 percent, to 6.1 billion Deutsche marks (\$3.66 billion), helping net profit climb 43.5 percent, to 548 million DM.

 Nokia Oy said a fire at one of its plants in northern Finland would not stop the production of mobile phones or networks. although it said the production of fixed phone networks would be halted for a few days. Bloomberg, Remers

France Telecom's Share Issue Is Oversubscribed

Campled by Ota Staff From Disputches

PARIS - More than a million small shareholders have reserved shares in the second portion of the existing shares in the company. The privatization of France Telecom sale, including existing shares sold

Strauss-Kahn said Thursday. the best way possible," and the number of requests for shares exceeds French government budget deficit. expectations, Mr. Strauss-Kahn said. The share issue for institutional investors is oversubscribed, he said.

France Telecom and the French government are selling 41 billion francs (\$7.34 billion) of new and SA, Finance Minister Dominique by the state, new shares and con-Strauss-Kahn said Thursday. vertible bonds, is intended to help

> More than 4 million individual when the government sold about 25

percent of France Telecom ahead of the opening of the European Uoioo holders at 182 francs last year, and the telecommunications market to competition in January.

The oew share flotation, to be coupled with a 5 percent capital increase and the sale of a 2 percent 'The operation is proceeding in France Telecom fund international stake to Deutsche Telekom AG, will expansion and indirectly reduce the allow the government to reduce its government coffers,

Shares were offered to small shareprice soared, peaking at 489.50 francs in August. They have since fallen, but on

Thursday they closed in Paris at 404.90, up 14.80, still more than double the original issue price.

But Deutsche Telekom is sufferstake in the company to 62 percent ing from the arrival of competition from 75 percent. The sale is ex- and said Wednesday that it would investors bought shares last October pected to bring 26 billion francs into cut prices to curb a loss in longdistance income. (AFP, Bloomberg)

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS Thursday, Nov. 19 Daily prices in local currencies. Amsterdam 28.00 24.00 18.50 18.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 19.50 Helsinki HEX General leden: 4650-52 www.lace# Provinces: 4511.16

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Sanwa and Daiwa, Predicting Losses, Seek Aid Toshiba Posts

TOKYO -- Sanwa Bank Ltd. and TOK YO — Sanwa Bank Ltd. and Choice but to appeal for a slice of the Daiwa Bank Ltd. two of the largest 25 trillion yen the government has set lion yen, reversing an expected gain of 22.5 billion yen. they would post losses this year and needed a combined 900 billion yen

several battered Japanese banks ex- of our bad loans completely on our pected to appeal for public money as own." Sanwa, Japan's fourth-largest they report dwindling profits or post losses — also said they would cur jobs and close branches.

worst recession of the postwar period leaves cash-strapped companies unable to make loan repayments. Crippled by more than 30 trillion

"We're trying to write off as much as possible now," said Masaki (37.41 billion) in government aid to Hashikawa, general manager of San-weather a deepening recession. Wa Bank, "so that from the next weather a deepening recession. wa Bank, 'so that from the next Sanwa and Daiwa — the first of business year we'll be able to dispose lender, said it would seek about 600 billion yen in public money. The bank reversed its full-year forecast Profits at the 19 national Japanese for consolidated current, or pretax. banks are tumbling as the country's results to a loss of 490 billion yen from a previously expected profit of 170 billion yen. It will write off 800

billion yen in bad loans. Daiwa, the 12th-largest lender, yen in write-offs of bad loans over the said it would ask for about 300 bil-

of 22.5 billion yen.

Analysts said the amounts the

banks had requested was conser-

"They're being very cautious," said Michael Lockrow of Thomson Global Markets. "They don't want to be seen as too hungry for public money, because they're still not sure about the conditions attached. Sanwa reported consolidated net

income of 23.3 billion yen for the half-year that ended Sept. 30, up from 8.7 billion ven a year earlier. Daiwa, which did not report con-

solidated figures, said parent-company net profit rose 59 percent in the first half, to 10.7 billion yen, while branches by March 2000.

The Japanese government still 14,254.46 points Thursday, down share sale, a Ministry of Finance owns 65.5 percent of NTT, a 244.77.

covery that bas been fragile at

billion yen.

Sanwa's shares rose 9 yen to close at 1,064; Daiwa fell 7 to 224. Sanwa said it would cut 683 positions from its staff of 14,188 by the end of March. It will close 11 of its 346 domestic branches and seven of 45 overseas branches and offices in the same period and close or combine a further 60 branches over the following three years.

Daiwa will cut more than 200 workers from its staff of 7,915 by the end of March and eliminate 400 more positions over the following two years. It will close seven of its 181 domestic branches by the end of March and eight more by March 2001 and will close its six overseas

NTT's financial health is dete-

riorating as a result of pension-

fund shortfalls and other expenses.

The company said this week that it

group net loss under U.S. account-

division. The shares will be sold in

past four years, the banks have little lion yen. It forecast a consolidated current profit fell 6 percent, to 7.1 Loss as Chip Prices Slump

TOKYO - Toshiba Corp., the world's largest maker of notebook computers, on Thursday reported a first-half loss for the first time in 23 years because of a global slump in prices for memory chips, computer peripherals and electronics.

Toshiba posted a group pretax loss of 41 billion yen (\$337.7 million). compared with a profit of 8.7 billion yen a year earlier. Sales fell to 2.50 trillion yen from 2.64 trillion yen. The results included the performance of Toshiba's 307 subsidiaries.

The group results showed that while Toshiba's computer business was more profitable overseas than at home, losses on microchips and consumer electronics were heavier at the group than at the parent level.

The main problem facing Toshiba, Japan's second-largest chipmaker behind NEC Corp., is the 60 percent collapse this year in prices of 16-megabit and 64-megabit dynamic random-access memory chips used in PCs, the result of global oversupply, said the executive vice president. Kiyoaki Shimagami.

That meant Toshiba, which got 22 percent of sales from microchips. had a 31 billion yen operating loss on the business, from profit of 47 billion yen a year ago.

Slumping domestic and Asian demand for consumer electronics where Toshiba got 18 percent of sales and price drops for PC peripherals. such as color tubes and liquid-crystal displays also weighed on Toshiba.

Analysts said Toshiba was not cutting costs quickly enough to combat plunging prices for memory chips or the decline in demand for its power-plant equipment.

Toshiba's restructuring efforts are backward-looking compared to the shareholder-driven approach of U.S. companies." said Naoki Sato. an analyst at HSBC Securities Japan Lid. "Its fixed costs are still too high, and it needs to shed more employees." Toshiba employs 186,000 workers. In September, it announced plans to slash more than 6,000 jobs, or 9 percent of its work

force, in the next two years. Toshiba expects performance to pick up in the year to March 2000 as memory-chip prices rebound and Toshiba raises the proportion of non-D-RAM products in its nticrochip output, Mr. Shimagami said.

Toshiba's shares closed 18 yen (Bloomberg, AFX) Asia.

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Very briefly:

Kuala Lumpur Composite

 Korea Asset Management Corp., the South Korean institution that manages the banking system's bad debts, said it would settle all nonperforming loans within five years. The Financial Supervisory Commission said nonperforming loans of financial institutions totaled 70.8 trillion won (\$54.71 billion) at the end of Junc.

 South Koren's corporate bankruptcies fell to a 25-month low of 1.036 in October from 1.085 in September and a monthly average of 2,225 in the first nine months of the year. as interest rates declined and banks supported cash-strapped companies, the Bank of Korea said.

 Japan's auto production and sales fell in October, Toyota Motor Corp,'s production fell 12.1 percent, to 285,576 vehicles, as sales slumped 17 percent, to 141.897. Nissan Motor Co.'s production fell 6.4 percent, to 129,094 units, and sales numbled 14 percent, to 61,857. Honda Motor Co.'s output fell 3.7 percent, to 114,714, as sales sank 20.4 percent. to 55,794. And Mazda Motor Curp. said its production declined 5.9 percent, to 68,789, as sales slipped 7.1 percent, to 22,631 vehicles.

• LG Electronics Cu, and LG Semicon Co. will merge their S600 million liquid-crystal display businesses and seek a foreign parmer.

• Daimler-Benz Asia Pte,'s Southeast Asian vehicle sales in 1998 fell as much as 40 percent from 1997 because of the economic crisis, said Ludwig-Holger Pfahls, the regional president and chief executive.

. Japan's trade surplus rose for the 19th consecutive month in October, expanding 23.9 percent to 1.371 trillion yen (\$11.27 billion), the Finance Ministry said, fueling concerns about a worsening trade imbalance as President Bill Clinton arrived in Japan for a summit meeting. Japan's surplus with the United States widened 31.9 percent to 719.7 billion yen.

· ABN-AMRO Asia Ltd., Bear Stearns Asia Ltd. and Nomura Securities Co. cut more than 70 employees in Asia as investment banks sought to trim costs amid a downtum in emerging markets and a deepening recession across parts of Remore Bloomberg, AP, AFP

Tokyo to Sell NTT Stock to Pay for Stimulus Plan

The new sale, which could raise 'best,' said Stephen Bronte, man-

TOKYO -- Japan next month will sell as many as I million shares former government telecommuniof Nippon Telegraph & Telephone cations monopoly, and last sold size could kill off a market re-Corp., the world's largest phone, shares in the company in 1988. company, to belp finance the govemment's latest economic-stimulus package, a person familiar with

Prin

the situation said Thursday. The Ministry of Finance will decide the sale price by mid-December, and the shares will be publicly traded beginning around Dec. 20,

Continued from Page 15.

But Japanese officials said

round of global trade negotiations,

one that will only start in 2000 and

probably will last for several years.

passed along two other issues of im-

private sector to other organizations.

referred to an ill-defined interna-

tional task force, and a blueprint for

global financial change was shuffled.

to an expanded version of the Group:

22 nations, which links finance

inisters and central bankers from

some in the APEC region and some

A study of currency traders was

reached in 1999.

almost 900 billion yen (\$7.41 billion), will be the fourth since the shares were first sold in 1986. The move, reported in the Nihon

privately that as far as Tokyo was trade—took a hit when Mr. Climon

The APEC summit meeting also lines of the meeting - praised the

portance to governments and the campaigning to bring down the gov-

Keizai newspaper, triggered a fall in Japan's benchmark stock index from a two-month-high reached

in other parts of the world.

Wednesday as investors warned that

APEC's unity and clout - its 21

of the world's economic output and

the U.S. confrontation with Iraq.

This week, the government announced a tax-cul and spending

that was designed to pull Japan, the can," said Sachio Ishikawa, a manworld's second-largest economy. out of recession. Some of the money to pay for the Japan, Europe and the United States.

The planned stock offering "is an package valued at 23 trillion yen obvious incentive to sell while you ager at Chuo Securities Co.'s equity

aging partner at Stephen Bronte would report its first-ever balf-year

The sale will be announced Frithe sale might hurt other issues.

Some of the money to pay for the Ispan, Europe and the United ay, he said.

Some of the money to pay for the package will come from the NTT the ministry said last month.

APEC: Harsh Economic Reality Forces Many to Lower Expectations of Group of New Zealand, whose country will . host year's APEC meetings, said members account for more than half that she did not believe the issues of

concerned, the nine sectors must be last weekend canceled his trip to the of the summit. We were not distracted," she part of another comprehensive Kuala Lumpur meeting to handle Reuters Television, even When Vice President Al Gore --at a business conference on the sidehave led you to believe that,

Still, many business executives reformasi, the movement that is remain disillusioned by APEC's priorities and performance. ernment of Prime Minister Mahathir Jeffrey L.S. Koo, chairman and

bin Mohamad of Malaysia, the chief executive of the Taiwan comchairman of the summit, Malaysian pany China Trust Commercial Bank, officials were outraged. said APEC was not organized to deal Many other APEC nations, even with major financial problems because trade and foreign ministry ofthose normally in step with Washington, criticized Washington for ficials dominated its councils. This bringing politics to a forum set up to should be changed by integrating developed and emerging countries, promote economic cooperation, finance ministers more closely into But Prime Minister Jenny Shipley the work of the group, he added.

"This region has a massive need for injections of long-term capital and

equity investment, 'said Victor Fung, human rights and democracy raised chairman of the Hong Kong Trade by Mr. Gore had disrupted the work Development Council. "We have pushed very hard for APEC govemments to implement a nonbinding code they approved in 1994 to enthough "the public rhetoric may courage investment. Yet the code has nnt yet been implemented."

Gareth Evans, the former Australian foreign minister who was chairman of the first APEC ministerial meeting, in Canberra in 1989, said the group had "dropped the ball" in another area vital to the business community - reducing trade and investment costs by mutual recognition of technical standards and harmonizing customs and investment rules.

"It seems to have got endlessly bogged down," he said, "so we are higher Thursday at 653. only getting small results."

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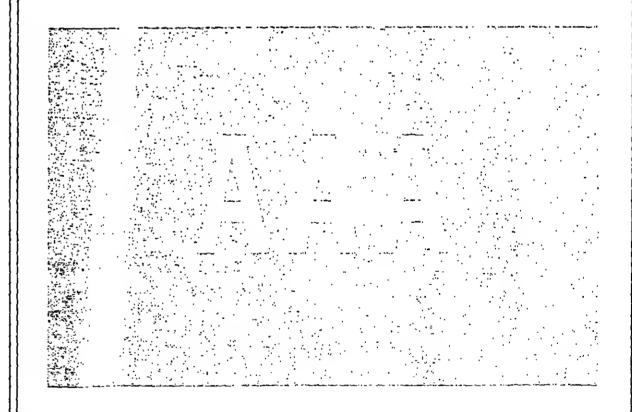
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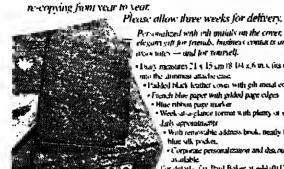


International Private banking

Half your life's mory - or even more - is inscribed on the pages of some desk diary. Yet when you travel or go to meetings. most desk diaries on too cambersonie to take along.

That's why the International Herald Tribune - constantly ulert to the needs of busy executives - had this desk diary especially designed for its readers. Bound in haurious silk-grain black leader, it's perfect on your desk, effering all the noting space of our standard desk dierry. Yet pick it up and you'll find it weighs a mere 400 grants (14 oz.).

No volunitious data and statistics are included in this diary, but on the other hand a removable address book saves hours of



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Internet Stocks' Prices Call for Careful Math

Washington Port Service

WASHINGTON - As investors were largely shrugging off the Federal Reserve Buard's rate cut this week, they were going bonkers over Amazon.com Inc., the Internet re- U.S. total, sn the po-

Why? Well, Amazon, which already sells books and music. announced it would now sell videotapes too and would open a holiday gift center with items ranging from have a dramatic im-

things lifted Amazon's stock by stroying share-\$22.25 on Tuesday and \$15.50 on holder wealth in his-Wednesday — a total increase of 25 toric proportions," percent. In the past 12 months, writes Bill Whyman Amazon has soared from \$24.25 a of the Precursor

share to \$164. In early trading Thursday division of Legg Amazon's shares were up \$5.625 at Mason Wood Walk-\$169,625.

Amazon is not the only Interpet port on the effects of tock that has shot into the strato-

Three weeks ago, eBay Inc., a for memorabilia, stamps, coins and the like, went public at \$18: on WedInternet is one thing. Figuring out which Internet stocks to buy — if trading Thursday, eBay's shares were at \$148, up 50 cents.

Yahoo! Inc., a search engine that has become a major Internet destination, rose \$13,375 Wednesday to \$190.125 a share - up from S24 a year ago. In early trading Thursday, Yahoo!'s shares were at \$194.875. up \$4.75. Its market capitalization, or stock price times num-ber of sbares outstanding, is about New England region of the United \$18.8 billion - more than Gannett Co., which publishes 87 daily news-

owns 20 television stations. So, are investors completely Not completely. Half-crazy is

papers (including USA Today) and

They are certainly right about the Internet. It's not hype. It's the real thing. It's changing the way the world shops, does business, communicates, educates itself and entertains itself. A study by Boston Consulting Group released Tuesday found that retail sales on the Internet were growing 200 percent annually and would exceed \$13 billion this JAMES K. GLASSMAN / ON INVESTING

year. But that is less than I percent of the tential is enurmous. But the Internet will crown both winners and losers. "The Internet will

The mere intention to sell these my, creating and depact on the econo-Group, a research er Inc., in a new re-

> the new technology. "The impact," and, overall, positive for the econ-

any - is another.

The basic problem with Internet

· Venture-capital funds pumped

\$550.8 million, a quarterly record,

in the third quarter into 114 rel-

States, continuing their bets on soft-ware, communications, medical

technology, retailing and education

as the money-makers of tomarrow.

The total was more than one-seventh

of the \$3.77 billion that went to 708

companies oatinawide in the July-

· Investment opportunities in

Asia are likely to rise next year,

helped by liberalization of capital

markets and other financial reforms,

managers of Morgan Stanley Dean

· Business leaders representing Group.

Winer said at a news conference spree could rival Japanese spending

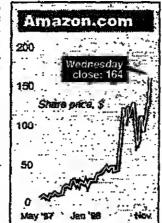
marking the opening of the firm's on U.S. properties during the 1980s.

September period.

Singapore office.

Very briefly:

stocks is that nearly



For example, last year, Amazon lost \$28 million on sales of \$148 million. This year, the doesn't sound out of line. company is expected to lose \$70 million on sales of

wild

\$500 million. Profits, one hopes, are Mr. Whyman writes, "is universal just over the borizon, but they may never show up. Even if you are sure to \$2.25 now — an annual growth they will, how do you value Amazon today?

pretty

guesses.

A high-technology company that is earning \$1 a share and increasing

its profits at 20 percent a year may trade at \$30 - a sensible price/

more than 150 corporations met in

Boston to urge the adoption of "so-

cially responsible corporate

States and abroad. "We have a bot-

tom-line interest in making sure that

the markets we serve are econom-

ically healthy and growing," said Henrique de Campos Meirelles,

president and chief operating officer

of BankBoston Corp. and the key-

· U.S. investors have capitalized on

the financial crisis in Asia by spend-

ing more than \$10 billion this year

on distressed real-estate and bad-

loan portfolios in Japan, South Ko-

rea and Thailand. If it continues, the

according to a report by E & Y

Kenneth Leventhal Real Estate

note speaker at the conference.

cially responsible"

earnings ratio of 30. But is Amazon worth \$4 a share or \$164? Without profits, it's anyone's guess.

Try this analysis. Let's say that, all of the compa- two years from now, Amazon has nies are losing sales of \$2 billion and earnings_of money. Trying to \$100 million — figures plucked divine a reasonable from the sky. With about 50 million shares outstanding, that's \$2 a price for a stock is

not easy, but it be- share. At a price of \$164 a share, gins with looking at profits. If there Amazon's P/E ratio, looking foraren't any, you have to make some ward to earnings in 2000, would be about 80. But if its earnings continue to grow at, say, 50 percent a year, then by 2005 they will be \$15 a share, meaning that someone who pays \$164 today will be getting a return on that original investment of 10 percent — and rising. That

> Do those calculations sound nots? Well, consider bow fast profit can grow at a bigh-tech company. At Microsoft Corp., earnings have increased from 6 cents a share in 1988 rate of close to 50 percent.
>
> Still, the level of profit for

> Amazon, or practically any other Internet firm, is mere conjecture. There are reasons to worry that the nature of the Internet will make competition so deadly that profit will be difficult to achieve.

Amazon, for instance, seems well on its way to becoming what Mr. Whyman calls an "intermediary" the cyberspace equivalent of a physical shopping mall. But the Internet makes prices so transparent, barriers to entry so low and switching to new vendors so easy that profit margins will almost certainly be squeezed severely. That's already happening with bookselling.

where Amazon, despite its growing volume, is not making money. The Internet has reduced costs for

Add to this uncertainty the lofty it ever comes. valuations of companies that have no history of earnings. When the The Boston Globe, AP, Reuters

Favors Nine

WASHINGTON --- On paper, they sound just about per-fect. They are stocks that Value Line Inc. predicts will outperform the market in the next six to 12 months and "for the pull to 2001-2003" and that have "safety ranks" of at least 3. which is considered average.

I screened the list further by requiring a price-to-earnings ratio of less than 16.

Here are the nine winners: Applebee's International Inc., restaurants; Brown Group Inc., a shoe retailer, CKE Restaurants Inc., a fast-food chain; Carlisle Cos., a construction materials maker; Gerber Scientific Inc., a builder of automated manufacturing systems; Newport Corp., a maker of fiber-optic components; Standard Pacific Corp., home-building: Stride Rite Corp., a children's shoemaker, and Transocean Offshore Inc. drilling.

Remember, no guarantees.

— JAMES K. GLASSMAN

market closed Wednesday, for example, Amazon had a market capitalization of \$7.8 billion. That was twice the combined value of the two largest conventional booksellers in the United States, Barnes & Noble Inc. and Borders Group Inc.

Those two chains, with more tan 2,000 stores, last year had sales & \$5 billion and earnings of \$140 million. Amazon, with no stores, will have one-tenth the sales and a loss of \$70 million.

Still, I will admit that I love the businesses that operate there. Amazon, If I could own individual Amazon did not have to build or stocks (and I can't because it would lease 100 brick-and-mortar outlets present conflicts with my writing). I to achieve \$500 million in sales. But would probably buy shares, even at Mr. Whyman points out that Internet these levels, simply because I'd like savings have not gone to the bottom to be a partner in such an innovative line; instead, they have been won by company. I would reserve some cash, however, fur the next dip - if

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Risk Managers Flock to Asia Amid Crisis, They Offer Vehicles for Limiting Losses

By Philip Segal

HONG KONG - For purveyors of new ways to manage risk, Asia is fertile ground — a region thrust suddenly into an environment of deep thrust suddenly into an environment of deep, with an insurance policy against its defaulting recession, shrinking credit and volatile markets after years of fantastic growth.

The specialty-insurance companies, banks and brokers of the world have noticed. They are noticed. They are noticed to the dangers of fluctuating currencies has not provided in a find markets and the dangers of fluctuating currencies has not provided in a find markets.

bombarding fund managers and company treasmers in Asia with new ways to manage risk, many of which have been tried and tested in Europe and the United States but are new to this

- The sales forces have a ready audience, because while analysts may recognize in hindsight the harbingers of the economic crisis that erupted in July 1997, almost none predicted a financial bock of the magnitude Asia is now experi-

encing.
"What's good for us is when people's per-

There are good companies over here, and they should still be getting access to capital.'

ception of risk is higher than the real risk," said Bryan Bowers, managing director at the newly opened Hong Kong office of Centre Solutions, Zurich Insurance Group's risk-management spe-

'Like everywhere in the world, there are good companies and bad companies" in Asia, he said. There are good companies over here, and they

should still be getting access to capital."

When he worked in his company's New York real-estate office, Mr. Bowers handled several Asian crisis, foreigners on average remained net certain portion of any decline in a property's value. investors in nearly all Asian countries, according The developer paid a hefty premium but could to Mr. O'Connell. Such information might have gain two advantages: Bankers would be more lessened the panic among fund managers last willing to extend credit because the insurance company was helping to share the risk, and the developer could get a partial rebate of the premium should there never be a claim on the policy.

Hong Kong may prove a good place to peddle such a product. In the third quarter alone, the Jones Lang Wootton capital values index for fastest rate ever in the third quarter, one trader Hong Kong office space fell 19 percent, and the said. index is down 55 percent in the 16 months since the start of the Asian crisis.

Mr. Bowers also suggested that Asian companies would benefit from new forms of financing

Even Indonesian exporters whose earnings are in foreign currencies have suffered a credit crunch. as banks in the country have shut off financing for imported components. Instead of a traditional loan. Centre Solutions might provide the exporter

provided an opportunity to sell currency manement products.

For years we had investors in emerging markets who didn't care about currencies," said Paul O'Connell, president of Emerging Markets Finance LLC, an American econometrics firm working with State Street to develop trading and risk-management products for Asia. The drop in Asian currencies has doubled the losses of foreign investors from stock declines, he said, as the lower currencies have further cut Asian stocks' values

when measured in dollar terms. State Street offers a computer-software product designed to help traders determine the best currency hedge. It then allows them to place a currency order and track its execution.

Simon Wilson-Taylor, vice president for currency management in State Street's London office, said, "An investment manager may be in 20 foreign markets but may only want to hedge six that are fairly representative of all of them.

Another State Street product draws on the \$4.3 trillion in securities held in custody worldwide by the banking giant. It provides a database showing cannal flows in and out of 60 countries around the world. Previously, investors might have had to wait weeks until central banks released such data, but the bank offers it on a three-day delay once trades are settled.

The information has yielded a major surprise. In the first eight months after the start of the

Another beneficiary of the appetite for risk management has been Asia's nascent market in credit derivatives, which began in 1996.

Traded completely over the counter and almost entirely among banks, the market grew at its party for a fee,

The market typically works like this: A bank seeking financial protection pays another hank to help insure it against loss resulting from default by a borrower or issuer of a bond. In the case of Hong Kong, a bank nervous about repayment of close of their financial year.

Goldman Plans Asia Expansion

SINGAPORE -- Goldman. Sachs & Co is creating a multimillion-dollar fund to buy Asian assets and plans to expand in the region, according to company executives.

John Corzine, a co-chairman of the American investment bank, and Philip Murphy managing director for Asia, were quoted Thursday as saying Goldman would station top employees in the region in its pursuit of mergers and acquisinous.

"We have an enormous amount invested in this city and Asia generally," Mr. Corzine told Singapore media during a stopover after the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

"A recovery fund would be an incremental

aspect of an already very large presence in Asia," he said. "We do not want to be seen as sweeping in to pick up cheap assets.

Mr. Corzine declined to give figures for the fund, but said that Goldman 'typically likes to start small and that the fund would tap private equity mostly from the firm and

He also denied rumors that Goldman is planning layoffs among its 1,500 employees

Goldman signed a 12-year lease Thursday for 190,000 square feet (17,100 square meters) of Hong Kong office space in Cheung Kong Center. It was the longest commercial lease ever signed by Hutchison Whampoa Ltd., which owns the complex.

Goldman has 600 employees in Hong Kong, and Mr. Murphy said the company would grow to fill the extra space.

"Four or five years ago we pulled back a bit in Asia," he said, "That will not happen

Mr. Corzine said that Goldman was still wary of investing in the banking sector. There needs to be a restructuring of the banking system at market clearing prices, he said. (AFX, AFP, Bloomberg)

bond from a shaky Chinese company could transfer some of that repayment risk to a third

Credit derivatives may be insuring more than 100 billion in credit payments already, according to some estimates, although trading has slowed in the past month.

The avalanche of trades this year has created a backlog that banks are seeking to settle before the

Behind a Summer Sell-Off

As Its Investors Sold, Coca-Cola Enterprises Bought

By Constance L. Hays Academy Times Service

NEW YORK - While much of America spent its summer vacation lying on the beach or re-laxing on a mountaintop, some key shareholders of Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc. spent theirs in a

flurry of trading on the stock exchange. Early filings for the third quarter show that at least one big mumal-fund company, a money manager and a trust company with significant ositions in Coca-Cola Enterprises sold nearly all their shares during that period. Another mutual fund is said to have sold 10 million shares, possibly in a private deal. The buyer of at least 14 million of

the shares on the block was the company itself. Two factors helped prompt the selling. In late July. Coca-Cola Enterprises, which is Coca-Cola 's main bottler in the United States and parts of Europe, announced a \$5 billion capital-spending plan that alarmed some investors, particularly when the company said it would not start showing increased positive cash flow until next year.

Then the stock market ranled by global economic crises, fell into an August swoon that carried the stock price of Coca-Cola Enterprises down.

along with those of many other companies. The biggest sellers included Prudential Mutual Fund Investment Management, which sold slightly more than 6.2 million shares, valued at \$158.9 million, at the end of August. The company had held those shares since June, said Tim Biggs, a spokesman for Prudential, but he declined to say why Prudential had decided to sell. Prudential still has about 242,000 Coca-Cola Enterprises shares in its portfolio.

Another big seller was Bessemer Trust Co., which sold 2.9 million shares valued at \$73.3 million, according to its most recent filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The company, which has been a long-term shareholder, still has about 46,000 shares.

The word on Wall Street is that Putnam Investment Management, the second-biggest shareholder in Coca-Cola Enterprises, quietly sold about 10 million of its 15.8 million shares in the third quarter as well, possibly in a private deal. A spokesman for Putnam, which is part of Marsh & McLennan, refused to comment, Meanwhile, filings show that Warburg Pincus Asset Management sold 901, 167 shares in the quarter for \$22.7

million; the firm kept 9,600 shares. Where did all those shares go? As it turns out, million were bought by the company itself, for 404 million; it issued debt to pay for them even though it was already heavy with debt from acquisitions. The company frequently uses its own stock in acquisitions, which can mean tax-free \$22.875 set Oct. 1.

deals for the owners of companies it takes over.
Interestingly, Coca-Cola Enterprises went on is shopping spree without fanfare, though companies often publicize buybucks, since the purchases can give the stock a lift. The first mention came in late October, when it released

third-quarter earnings. The company's most recent stock-repurchasing plan, aimed at reclaiming 30 million shares altogether, was authorized in April 1996, a com-pany spokeswoman said. But until Jan. 1 of this year, no shares had been repurchased, because the

mpany was reluctant to take on more debt. While I million shares were bought in the first quarter — preceded by a detailed news release — that move was dwarfed by the activity that came in the third quarter.

"To me, that's not the way to use shareholder capital." said Albert Meyer, a consultant in Indianapolis who previously criticized Coca-Cola Enterprises. "And it's capital they don't have, because they had to borrow to do it."

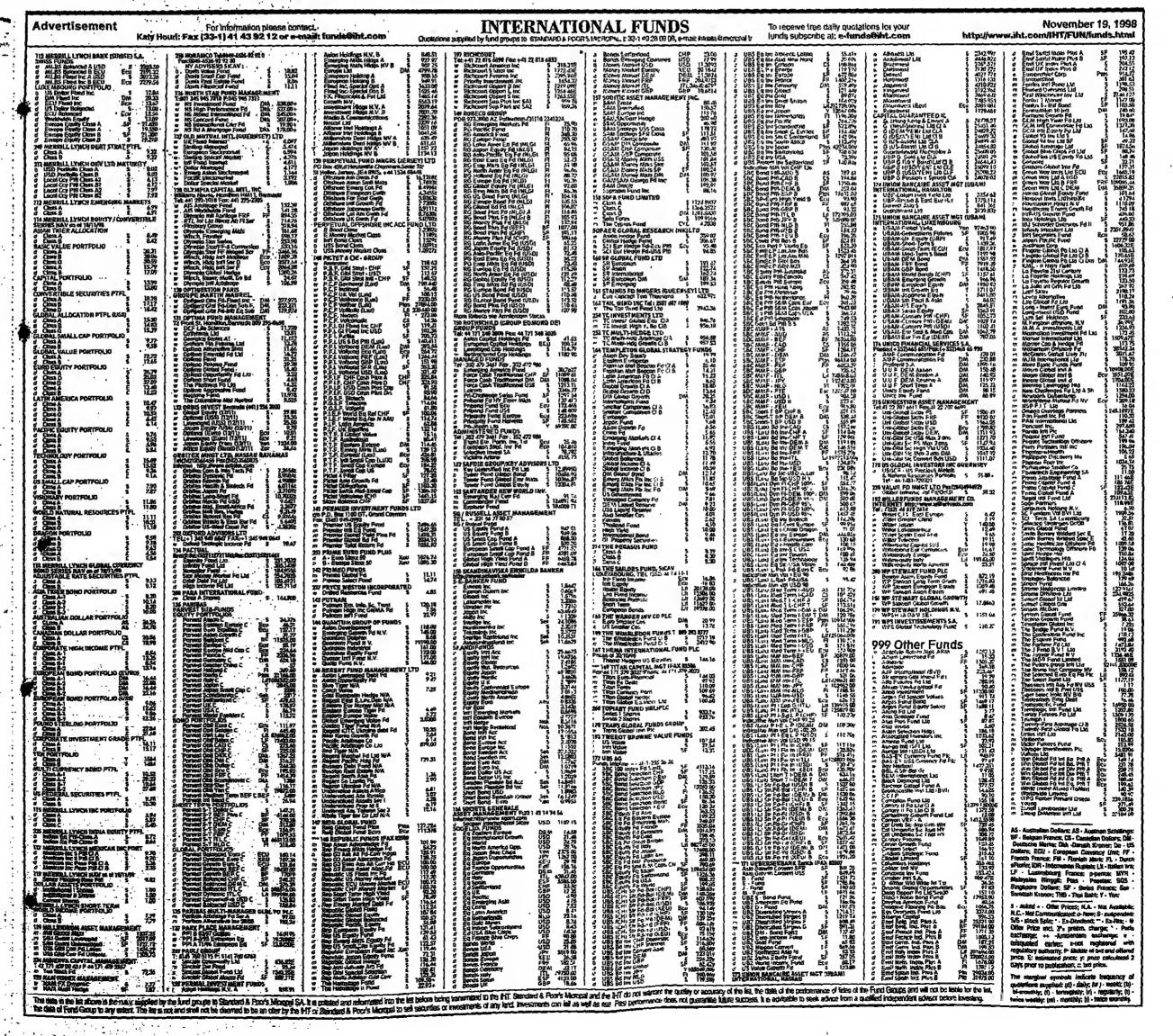
Coca-Cola Enterprises snapped up at least 14 million of its own shares in a falling market.

Like merger activity, corporate share repurchases are at an all-time high. Last year, companies spent \$182 billion to buy back their own stock, said Laurie Hodrick, a professor of economics and finance at the Columbia University business school. They do so to invest in the stock when it appears to be undervalued, or for tax advantages,

as a deterrent to possible takeovers, she added. Margaret Carton, vice president for investor relations and planning at Coca-Cola Enterprises, says that share repurchases have long been part of the company's strategy and that the third quarter was merely an example of that strategy in action.

The company's decision to take on more debt to do that, though, may not sit well with every investor. "If interest rates were to spike, I think CCE would be in serious trouble just to make their interest payments," Mr. Meyer said.

Still, Coca-Cola Enterprises' share price has bounced back. The company was included in the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index on Oct. 7; that pushed up the stock price because index funds had to add its shares to their holdings, and, as the market has recovered, the company's shares have gone up as well. Coca-Cola Enterprises' stock was trading at \$38.0625, down 93.75 cents, early Thursday, compared with its 12-month low of



S PORTS

WORLD ROUNDUP Jumps and (Snow) Falls Return

Winter Sports Begin, Without Ebullient Tomba, Street and Lipinski

To Please French

SOCCER Two days after the FIFA Confederations Cup was moved from January to next summer. France said it may not play in the eight-nation tournament.

Changed Dates Fail

A competition cannot have these dates, it is a question of the calendar." Noel Le Graet, president of the French soccer league. was quoted as saying Thursday in

The French daily L'Equipe.

The French federation's governing council will meet Friday to decide whether to accept the dates. The tournament, in Mexico, was originally scheduled for Jan. 8-20, but after European leagues objected that they would lose players in midsenson, it was switched to July 28-Aug. 8.

The French league had planned to start its season July 28. The dates also conflict with the U.S. Major League Soccer, the Pan American Games and come right after the South American championship.
"I'm extraordinarily disappoint-

ed. As everyone knows, I was hopeful we'd have uninterrupted season Doug Logan, the MLS commissioner. "However, we will make best of it." to see what we could do," said

Patriots Consider Move

FOOTBALL The New England Patriots and Connecticut's govemor announced a tentative deal Thursday on moving the team from suhurban Boston to Hartford in what would be the fifth National Football League franchise to shift

cities in three years.

The deal, which must be approved by NFL owners and the Connecticut Legislature, calls for a \$350 million stadium to be hullt as part of a \$1 billion development.

 Linebacker Wayne Simmons was claimed by the Buffalo Bills, a day after being waived by the Kan-sas City Chiefs following a penalty-plagued loss. (AP)

NCAA Punishes LSU

BASKETBALL Louisiana State University will be barred from 1999 postseason tournaments and lose six scholarships the next three years because a boosier paid Lester Earl \$5,000 to play basketball there, the NCAA, the governing body of U.S. college sport, announced. The school will forfeit the five victories in which Earl, now at

Cardinals Trade Gant

BASEBALL The Saint Louis Cardinals sent outfielder Ron Gant and two pitchers to the Philadelphia Phillies on Thursday in exchange for reliever Ricky Bottalico, a relief

Brain Supplement Queried

British sports psychologists have expressed concern over a nutritional supplement about 10 go on sale in Britain that is supposed to stimulate the brain.

And An Antonio Control of the Contro

The Guardian newspaper quoted NeuroGain's manufacturers as saying the product is a "nourotransmitter support system" and can help golfers, soccer players and runners hy enhancing concentration, allowing the brain to send clearer and stronger signals to muscles.

"There is not enough data," said David Collins of the British Olympic Association's psychology steering group. "Not onough is known about what impact nutritional supplements can have."

By Christopher Clarey International Herald Tribune PARIS - Winter does not begin officially until late next month, but the winter sports season officially began in September, when the aerial skiers opened their World Cup freestyle sea-

son in Australia. Winter athletes are not yet like tennis players, golfors or soccer players, whose seasons blend seamlessly into the next without much time for reflection or re-covery. But the campaigns are getting longer, and it will be intriguing to see what happens as winter sports continue to develop in the Southern Homisphere.

Skiors already train in South Amorica and New Zealand during the off-season.
Will there eventually be World Cup
Alpine races in Chile in June? World Cup moguls in the Snowy Mountains of Australia in July? World Cup snowboarding in the Drakensberg range of South Africa in August?

For now, the winter circuit remains largely a European and North American affair, with an occasional long-haul flight to Japan, and over the next two weekends the 1998-99 season will begin in earnest, even if the Alpine skiers Alberto Tomha, Picabo Street and Katja Seizinger, tho figure skaler Tara Lipinski and the cross-country skiing star Vladimir Smimov are not involved.

Tomba announced his retirement in early October, shortly before the Alpine skiers opened thoir season on the glacier in Soelden. Austria. The now traditional glacier event, which comes nearly a month before the next World Cup alpine race, seems to exist largely to remind consumers that it is time to book their ski

after winning three Olympic gold needals and two world championsbip gold medals and then fading in the last two seasons, he will have time to devote to his acting, his wine cellar and the

charges of tax evasion that have been hrough against him in his native Italy.

Tomba's charisma and ability to transcend his insular sport will be oxtremoly difficult to replace, but Hermann Maier of Austria is potentially a more dominant skier, if not personality, than Tomba was at his peak. Unlike Tomba, who specialized in the two technical events—slalom and giant slalom—the Herminator, as Maier is known, is a Herminator, as Maier is known, is a three-event skier, capable of winning in the giant slalom and in the two speed events, super-G and downhill.

The Austrians have emphasized cross-discipline skiing in their development program. Maier won the overall World Cup title with ease last season, his first full season on the circuit. Ho also won two gold medals at the Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan, somehow picking himself up out of the snow after one of the most spectacular falls in the history of the downhill and finishing first in the super-G and giant slalom.

His success did not go unchallenged. In the off-season, officials of tho Italian and Swiss ski teams publicly insinuated that Maier had used performance-enhancing drugs to help him add 10 kilograms (22 pounds) to his once-slight frame in the last three years.

But before the first race in Soelden, Maier denied those accusations, attributing them to frustration on the part of

vacations and to buy new boots or skis.

Tomba helped sell plenty of equipment during his rollicking career. But

bis rivals, and said that he had been tested four times in 1998 and that his now muscles came from lugging the bricks be

Maier strapped on his skis and went back to attacking on the course. He won charges of tax evasion that have been

> hut the American skiers are in no position to impress the home crowds.
> Tommy Moe, whose only career downhill victory came very conveniently at

But the much larger blow to American skiing came during a race in March, when Picabo Street hroke her left femur and tore ligaments in her right knee in a crash. Street, one of the most irrepressihle and personable women in sports, had spent most of 1997 rehabilitating after another knee injury and had returned just in time to win the Olympic super-G gold medal in Nagano. She will not compete this season, but at 27, has

Street's longtime rival, Karja Seizinger of Germany, the premier women's skier of the 1990s, is not nearly

laid for a living when he bad yet to find his place on the Austrian team.

After defending himself in Soelden. the opening giant slalom by a typically large gap of 1.6 seconds. Maier will resume his season Friday with another giant slalom in Park City, Utah.

The women started competing on Thursday in the same resort, which will be one of the primary venues at the next

Winter Olympics in 2002.
The United States will also play host to this year's world Alpine championships in Vail, Colorado, in Fehruary, the 1994 Olympics, has retired.

no plans to retire.

as comfortable in front of the camera, although she is every bit as andacious on skis. She, too, is in rehabilitation after suffering the first serious injury of her



Alexandra Meissnitzer running the giant slalom Thursday in Park City.

career - torn knee ligaments - during training in the off-season. Seizinger won two gold medals and a bronze in Nagano and the overall World Cup title last season; hut in her absence, her teammate Hilde Gerg and Pernilla Wiberg of Sweden are among the favorites to take over her leading role.

Figure skating also will be seeking replacements this season. Tara Lipinski, the diminutive 15-year-old who outperformed ber fellow American Michelle Kwan to win the gold medal in Nagano, has announced her retirement from nas announced her retirement from Olympic-eligible competition and is skating in professional exhibitions. Pasha Grishuk and Yevgeni Platov of Russia, the two-time Olympic ice dancing gold medalists, have made the same choice. Kwan, who hopes to compete in the 2002 games, is not skating a full schedulo this season. Neither is Ilva Kulik of

ulo this season. Neither is Ilya Kulik of

Russia, reigning men's Olympic gold medalist, but the Russian men are still thriving. Aleksei Yagudin, Aleksei Urmanov, Yevgeni Plushenko and Aleksandr Abt are all capable of making the Canadian Elvis Stojko's Olympic disappointment carry over into 1999.

nid. Fin. — World Championships, Mor. 22-28., ROBERS SKUNIG III. Apstria — World Championships, Feb. 18-28. Norway — Holmerkollen, Mar. 20-21.



An ailing Monica Seles stretching for a forehand against the erring Anna Kournikova in the first round of the Chase Championship.

Davenport and Seles Both Battle Through

By Robin Finn

Yew York Times Service NEW YORK — Two points away from being bounced our of the opening round of the Chase Championships for the second consecutive year, Lindsay Davenport, who is already sure of finishing the year ranked No. 1, reminded herself how irritable she would be if she let her year finish on an unflattering note.

So pride prevented a first-round fall Wednesday night as Davenby 6-4, 5-4 before restoring order. scrambled into the quarterfinals at Madison Square Garden with a 4-

6. 7-6 (7-4), 6-0 comeback Davonpori's close encounter with premature defeat was far less painful than Monica Seles' opening night ordeal.

Unable to eat since Sunday night, when a flu bug took up residence in her stomach, and unwilling to do much of anything except sleep "for the last 50 hours." Seles ruised herself from

port, who trailed Sandrine Testud her sickbed Wednesday night and then won, helped by 17 double faults from Anna Kournikova.

Seles, grunting more out of discomfort than habit, soldiered to a 6-1, 6-3 victory that put her in a quarterfinal meeting with Steffi Graf, whose resurrection after her seventh surgery, has been nothing short of masterly.

Wednesday night, Seles put herself in harness with such discipline that she committed just five unforced errors, 31 fewer than her healthy opponent.

bruising ground strokes and graceful volleys, was inefficient when the task turned to holding serve. She lost the opening set with her ninth double fault, and quadruple donble faults in the next-to-last game of the second set gave Seles the opportunity to serve out the

"I think if I'd served better, the match could've went a different way." said the loser, who seemed unaware that Seles was under the

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Sylvain Wiltord of Bordeaux, left, watching Monaco's Philippe Leonard in a French league game Thursday.

Lucky Laslandes Wins in Monaco

fourth-place Monaco on Thursday to remain second in the French league.

Lilian Laslandes put Bordeaux ahead after only six minutes with his sixth goal of the season. Horve Alicarte, a ern Ireland above Germany Bordeaux defender, broke into third place in Group 3. through on the left and his low ball into the goalmouth beat advancing goalkeeper Fabien Barthez and went in off the surprised Laslandes' shin. Johan Micoud scored the second by lobbing the ball

EURO 2000 Northern Ire-Bordeaux won, 2-0, at land twice hit back from a goal down against Moldova in Belfast to draw, 2-2. in qualifying for the European championships. That draw gave Moldova its first point and lifted North-

In Belgrade, Pedrag Mijatovic scored to give Yugoslavia a hard-carned victory the trish winning streak.

FRIENDLIES Brazil, field-first goal for his country.
ing an experimental side, Rivaldo, one of three survi-Russia hammered Fortaleza, Brazil, 5-1. The Russian team fielded

only players from the Russian league. It took the field 24 hours after completing a 30hour journey from Moscow and had to cope with a temperature change of 40 degrees centigrade. Elber gave Brazil the load

in Group 8 over Ireland as his after three minutes with his team marked its delayed start sixth goal in six full interto the European Champion nationals. Amoroso scored ships with a victory and ended his first two goals for Brazil and Marcos Assuncao hit his

vors from the 1998 World Cup team, scored with a pen-

In Gerlsenkirchen, Germany, the host, rallied in the second half to salvage a 1-1 draw against the Netherlands in an exhibition match. Olaf Marschall scored for

Germany in the 52d minute after Michael Reiziger had given the Dutch a well-deserved lead in the 22d. Police reported no incidents between rival fans.

(AP. Reuters, AFP)

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SPORTS

for Sammy: The National League MVP

pative of the Dominican most valuable player

s only the third Latin .il, who was the AL MVP in 1987, had been the only Dominican to win an MVP award.

, furst-place is oot likely to defuse the debate that precedented production. has raged and will continue to rage

With Juan Gonzalez of the baseball people and members of the major-league-leading 158 runs bathagers having: won the news media alike — believed he ted in and a 308 batting average. Gwire.

League award a day earlishould be the NL MVP because he McGwire drove in 147 runs, batted

Throughout their remarkably

to win the NL award. Sosa supporters who credited the femente won in 1966 and Chicago Cubs' right-fielder for 1961 record of 61 home runs cap- achieved both. sepeda in 1967. George sparking his team to a wild-card tivated old fans and created new berth as the second-place team in the ones as it commanded daily atten- countryman of Sosa, finished third NL Ceotral Division. The St. Louis tion throughout the much of the in the halloting with 215 points and Cardinals, McGwire's team, were world. The one-sided oature of the vote never in the race despite his uo-

ed the first time that Latin set the record with 70 home runs. . 299 and led the majors in walks friendly rivalry. Sosa said that Mc-

primary focus of that anention. points.
has raged and will continue to rage erwhelmingly over the appropriate choice for the helped make helped make

The Cubs would have joined the some felt he should be rewarded for over the appropriate choice for the cardinals among the also-rans withhelped make award. McGwire supporters—fans, out Sosa, who had 66 home runs, a But Sosa took the interest to an even Galarraga of Atlania sixth with 147.

players swept both MVP

But Sosa supporters argued that the previous 67 years of the rewas a difference between playing the previous 67 years of the year, which some concede and slugging percentage (.470). The McGwire-Sosa home run it at the end of the season. He was McGwire might have been, and contest helped revive interest in ma-right on both counts. But Sosa also ior league baseball, which had said he had other priorities such as The voters clearly sided with the lagged since the 1994-95 strike. helping the Cubs reach the playoffs Their joint pursuit of Roger Maris's and winning the MVP award. He

> Moises Alou of Housion, a fellow was the only other player who was Because McGwire was the named oo all 32 hallots.

Greg Vaughn of San Diego was



Phoenix's Greg Adams, left, being grabbed by Vancouver's Mattias Ohlund, who was penalized.

ten by Sosa, Japanese Star Dreams of Playing in U.S.

By Tim Noonan International Herald Tribuna

OKYO — From the moment his plane landed in Tokyo-Sammy Sosa was engulfed in sea of flashbulbs, microphones l endless adulation.

entioo I have received in Japan," d the Chicago Cubs slugger whose ne-run duel with Mark McGwire , summer elevated both to levels international fame rarely enjoyed baseball players. It's a little rwhelming. The Japanese pensity to heap praise on star ath-s is not limited to Sosa, however. Ichiro Suzuki, a 25-year-old outder with the Orix Blue Wave, the lia circus consuming Sammy ered a welcome respite.

table-player awards. Telegenic engaging, Suzuki has a .350 er batting average and a devsportsman in Japan.

While almost all the Japanese allstar players were simply hoping to used by scoots from U.S. teams. Su- Doi, the Blue Wave manager, was yourself and doo't give more than is make a good showing against a team of U.S. major leaguers they played in 'I'm kind of surprised with all the exhibition games over the past couple of weeks. Suzuki was auditioning for a larger role.

"I want to be the first player to show what Japanese batters can do in the major leagues." Suzuki said. Buoyed by the recent success of the pitchers Hideo Nomo and

Hideki Irabu, a number of Japanese professionals are eager to follow them to the U.S. major leagues. While a number of scouts are impressed by Kazuhiro Sasaki, a Yokohama Bay Stars relief pitcher n his first five full seasons, the visit As saves and an earned-run with 45 saves and an earned-run average as a runner, average batting titles and three most-run with 45 saves and an earned-run with 45 saves and 45 saves a beeo signed by an American team.

Jamie Moyer, a Seattle Mariners on a major league team. pitcher who played for the visiting tingly accurate and powerful U.S. team, said be was impressed school in his naove Nagoya, but in his wing arm and may run the bases er than any professional baseball posed and has good bat cootrol," he in Japan. The Blue Wave drafted him

the considerable burden of being the the major leagues faster from home then spent his first two years of pro-most celebrated and recognizable to first base. Moyer said he felt fessional baseball as a struggling are always going to expect more Suzuki was ready for the majors.

According to the ranking system zuki would be among the top four or five defensive outfielders in the majors. There are doubters, however, Sadaharu Oh, the Japanese home-ruo legend, said players in his country were still far behind American major leaguers wheo it came to bat speed. But he said that with more exposure to superior competition, Suzuki could develop the necessary skills.

ike Hargrove, the Cleve-land Indians' manager and land Indians' manager and skipper of the visiting U.S. major-league squad, was oot over-whelmed with Suzuki,

would see him as a fourth outfielder

Suzuki was a pitcher in high

player in the world. He also carries said. "I'm oot sure there is anyone in and switched him to the outfield. He autographed pair of shoes and some teenager bouncing back and forth be- than you are capable of doing. tween the minors and Orix. Shozo Suzuki said. "He said to be true to put off by what he perceived as the

player's indifference. But wheo the team hired Akira Ogias its manager, Ogi immediately promoted Suzuki, and the 20-yearold responded by hitting .385 — a the hosts. Everyone wanted a piece of Pacific League record — and win- Sammy — who broke the majorning most-valuable-player honors. Ogi also urged Suzuki to use only the name Ichiro, reasoning that there Gwire, who hit 70. Five of Japan's were many Suzukis in Japan hut there would be few Ichiros.

Suzuki relishes talking to foreign media, but when he speaks to the Japanese press his responses are seven bases in the series, recognizes terse and brief. He has seen every that his fale is tied to his club's aspect of his private life reported here and every detail of his performance scrutinized. While he is too gracious to be openly hostile, it mine full seasons. "I would just like is clear that he yearns to escape from to play at the highest level in the his Japanese fishbowl existence, world," he said "I don't oeed to be

possible. Michael then wished me good luck."

The Americans won the sevengame series, which ended Sunday, five games to two, and Sosa wowed league home run record this year with 66 hur still finished second to Mcmost famous sumo wrestlers descended upon his squad's clubhouse

in hope of saying hello. Suzuki, who his .380 and stole He says meeting Michael Jordan the No. I player to be there. I just in Chicago was a thrill for him. The basketball superstar gave Suzuki an off the field as well as on."

Waite Carries Coyotes Over the Canucks, 4-2

the season with a victory over Vancouver. The Coyotes conquered in the first multigoal effort the visiting Canucks, 4-2, of his career. on Wednesday night 10

NHL ROUNDUP

their unbeaten streak to nine games, Jimmy Waite Coyotes, who have allowed no more than two goals in 12 consecutive games.

Capitals 4, Maple Loafs 1 Jan Bulis scored his first two goals of the season and assisted on another, leading host Washington over

Bulis, having missed the The Phoenix Coyotcs Capitals' first 13 games continued their fast start to with an ankle injury, was playing in his third contest since returning and turned

Red Wings 6, Oilers 2 move into a tie with the Sieve Yzerman had two goals and an assist as De-Dallas Stars atop the Patroit won in Edmonton. cific Division and stretch

Yzerman, Aaron Ward and Vyacheslav Koziov scored in the first period for the Red Wings.

Mighty Ducks 3, Rangers made 28 saves for the 1 Marty McInnis scored the go-ahead goal on a thirdperiod power play as host Anaheim beat New York.

Sharks 5, Kings 4 Tony Granato's two third period goals and Jeff Friesen's two-goal, one-assist performance lifted San Jose over visiting Los Angeles.

COREBOARD

ICEHOCKEY NHL Standings ANTIC DOVERON W L 7 Ph GF GA 9 6 0 12 33 35 7 5 4 18 43 42 7 6 4 18 45 37 8 10 0 16 45 48 4 B 5 13 39 48 WESTERN CONFERENCE CENTRAL DIVISION W L T Pts GF GA 9 8 0 18 53 44 7 4 4 18 42 35 4 9 1 12 39 47 5 10 3 13 38 63

(pp). Second Period: None. Third Period: ULapschite 4 (Brown, Nimphy) 6. D-Yzentan 8
(McCarty) 7. D-Fedonov 4 (Yzentan 8
(McCarty) 7. D-Fedonov 4 (Yzentan 6
(pp), Shots on yook: D-7-8-11-76. F. 7-59-71. Goodles: D-Osyoori, E-Essense.
Vancotheer
Part Period: V-Scaticherd 3 (Kint) Bonoriy
2. P Toochet 6 (Thachak, Roenick) (pp), 3-P.
Niammirum 2 (Roenick, Toochet) 5 Second
Period: Nano: Third Period: P-Ebbler 1

hisomiram 2 (Rocnick, Toccher) Second Period: None, Third Period: P-isblater 1 (Tocchet, Twentovsky) S. P-Drake 2 (Rosolck, Tuochet) S. V-Drake 4 (Hescroft) Stats on godi V-9-12-30, P-7-13-7-27. Gentlies: V-Sorre, Hisch, P-Welle, N.Y. Rongers 0 1 0-1 Auntein 4 1 3-3 First Period: None, Second Period: A-Rucchie S. 2. Niew York, Sundstrom 4 (Greitle, Kovolse) Third Period: A-McInhs S (Korlya, Rucchie) [pp]. A A-Karlya 9 (Rucchie) [en]. Shots on goals New York 13 (0-7-30, A-7-27-16. Gentlies: New York, Richter, A-Hebert.

(07-30. A 7-27-16. Goodless: New York, Richtex. A-Heibert.

Los Angeles 9. 3. 1-4.

Sun Jose 12. 3-5.

First Period: S.J.-Murphy 3. Olorfon.

Sturm) Second Period: S.J.-Friesen 4. 3. L.A.
Robbridie 10 (Mauroy, D'Donnell) 4. L.A.
Murry 7. (Lacrold) 5. S.J.-Friesen 7.

Nicholts, Noland (pp), 5. L.A.-Mauray 8.

Visheun, Legoco (sh), Third Period: L.A.
Johnen 3. (Tsyplaton, Duchetine) (pp), 8.

S.J.-Grundio 3. (Frieser, Rouse) 9. Son Jose,

Grundio 4. (Sturm) (sh), Shats on good: L.A.

10-8-12-30. S.J.- 12-12-16-40. Goodless

L.A.-Legoco, S.J.-Vermon.

WEDSHESDAY RESULTS

Defruid 2 6 3-6

Edmanston 0 7 (Lichston, Accounter) (pp). Second Period:

Murphy). 2 D-Word 1, 3 E-Murrov 5

(Hourse). 4 D-Kozlov 2 (Murphy, Holerston)

(pp). Second Period:

Weshington, Zodnik 7 (Buffe). 3. Weshington, 2 (Lichtik, Revolute) (pp). Second Period:

Weshington, Zodnik 7 (Buffe). 3. Weshington, 2 (Lichtik, Revolute). There is the shearth Character (December 2018). Shots on goal: Terorita, 114-10-27. Washington, 6-15-9-30. Goalles: Toronta, Joseph, Washington, Kalzig.

> BASKETBALL --- EUROLEAGUE

Albo Berlin 75, Kinder Bolognu 72 CSKA Moscow 66, Zondor, Croutica 68 Ulberspot, Turk, 79 Olymp, Pérceus, Gre., 89 Graup D Teogra, Bologna 84, Villeurbonne, Fr., 61 Somana, Russia, 88, Real Mattrid 109

U.S. COLLEGES SCORES 709 25 7. Temple (3-6) del. Mississippi 68-52

- 9. Uteh (1-1) foot to Uteh State 62-54
21. Indicate (4-6) det. Alabomo-Birm. 91-54
2. Indicate 69. N.J. Tech 58 Destanouth 69, Vermont 64 Horsard 62, Boston College

Horverrd 42. Boston Collage 61
Holy Cross 62. Horiford 58
Lotoyatte 43. Princeton 47
Quimblec 44. Army 63
Seton Holl 83. Oresel 70
Temple 68. Mississippi 52
Georgetown 83. Georgia 53. 68
N. Corollino 53. By Compited 36
Old Dominion 83. Hompton 69
Walke Forest 82. UNC Greensbe
E. Illinois 70. Indiana 58. 63 E. Hilmais 70, Indiana St. 63 Hilmais St. 60, Wis.-Green Bay 49

St. Mary's, Cal. 75. Sun José Si. 56
PRESEASON HTT SW Missoori St. 72. Missouri 67 Standord 86. del. South. Mcthodi QUARTERFUNALS St. John S 73. Mossochusetts 69

North Carolina 65, Georgia 58 Miami 115, Upstate Basketball 90 WOMEN

TOP 2.3 No. 11 Notre Classe (2-0) def. Butler 71-60. No. 22 UC Sonte Bertrere (1-0) def. North-

RUGBYUNION WORLD OUP QUALIFYING

group 1 IN DUBLIN, SRELAND unia 27, Georgia 23 treland and Ramaria qualified 1999 finals.

strambinos: Emparis lefterlands 0. England and thay qualified for 1999 finals. Netherlands go bits repechage. observes: England 3 points: Haly 3:

GOLF

PGA GRAND SLAM OF GOLF MONGOO & BO WEDNESDAY IN KAUAL HAWAR Tiger Woods, U.S., del. Vitay Singh, Fift 2-up

THRE PLACE Let James, U.S. del Mark O'Means, U.S. 1-up SOCCER

WEOPLAN CHAMPIONS Albania C. Greece 6
STANDONGS: Latva 6 points; Greece 5;

STANDINGS: Lative 6 points; Greece sy Norway 4; Slovenia 4; Gaergia 3; Atbania 2. GROUP a Northern Ireland 2; Moldova 2 STANDINGS: Finland 6 points; Turkey 6; Northern Ireland 4; Germany 3; Moldova 1. GROUP 5
Son Marino B. Cyprus 1
STANDINGS: Austria 7 points; Cyarus 6;

STAMBINGE: Austria 7 points: Cyprus & Israel 4: Spain & San Marina 0. Matta 1. Macedonia 2 Yugoslovia 1, Ireland 0 STANDINGS: 'reland

AMBUNGS: 'reland 6 points: Croatia 6; edonio I; Yugoslavio 2; Matta 0. FRIENDLY INTERNATIONALS England 2 Czech Res Engiand Z Czech Regulate Germany E, Netherlands 1 Hungary Z, Switzarland 0 Italy 2, Spain 2 Lunembourg C, Belgium 9 Portuga 2, Israel 0 Bruril S, Russia 1

RELEF '96, TOURNAMENT WEDNESDAY IN LOS ANGELES Gustemato 3. Mexico 2

THIRD PLACE Hondurps & El Salvador 1 PRENCH PIRST DIVI

CHASE CHAMPIONSHIPS

WEDNESDAY IN NEW YORK

Testud, France, 4-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-0.

QUARTERFEALS
Yeyuk Basuk, Indonesia, and Caroline Vis.
Netherlands, del. Martina Hings, Switz. and
Jana Novatna, Czech R. 11), 6-4, 2-6, 6-4. Alexandra Fusai und Natholie Touriot, France (4), def. Elena Likhoviseva. Russia, and Ai Sughama. Japan. 4-6, 6-1, 6-4.

ATP DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP WEDNESDAY IN HARTFORD, CONN.

GREEN GROUP
Jacco Ellingh and Paul Haoriuis, The
etherlands (1), def. Ellis Ferreira, South Netherlands (1), def. Ellis Ferreira, South Ahrica, and Rick Leoch, U.S., (5), e-4, 6-4. Othrier Detailine and Fabrice Sontona. France (7), def. Todd Woodbridge, and Mark Woodforde, Austratio (3), 6-7 (7-1), e-3, e-4. ao.

and Cyril Sub, Czech R. (6), 2-4, 6-4, 6-2.

Den Johnson, and Fransisco Monta
U.S., (6), def. Mohesh Bhupothi and Lean
Pass, India (2), 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-4).

TRANSITIONS

AMAHEMA-Added RHP Mark Harriger, RHP Raman Ortiz and LHP Scott Schoene-RHP Roman Ority and LHP Scott Schoene-weis to ad-man moster. Stoked RHP Brett Grobe, RHP Michael Hortung, RHP Luis Ports, RHP Namman Aberdaya, RHP Kevin Lamon, RHP Jet Ware, RHP Mike Fyrths, RHP Kevin Traytman, RHP Trayts Trummand, RHP Mike Bovee, RHP Joe Jocobsen: LHP DeSean Warren, LHP Donren Winstor: C-18-38 Steve Decker, 38 Tim United 28-55 Jett Hussian IB-06-66-01 Steparter: OF Entitle Prinstage. OF

Declar, 38 Tim United 28-55 Jeth Huster 18-OF Benji Samarton: OF Eddie Christian: OF-18-3B Josan Herrick, 55 Loyce Covel. Toroarto—Released RHP Shannon Withen, Bought contracts of RHP Leonoto Estrella Irent Hoperstown, SAL, RHP Isobel Giron Irom Knouville, SL, and LHP John Bale, INF Joe Lawrence, INF Cosey Bloke and OF-Peter Toro I from Durendia, PSI.

RATIONAL LEAGUE

R.Y.METS—Agreed to lerms with LHP Dennis Cook on 3-year contract. Nomed Tim

nis Cook on 3-year controct. Nomed Tim Twilet Larry Doughty and Erwin Bryant scouts.

PITTSBURGH—Acquired OF Brian Ciles Irom Cleveland for LHP Ricardo Rinton.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL POOTBALL LEAGUE
BUFFALD—Claimed LB Woyne Simmons
off walvers from Konsas City,
OAKLAND—Walved LB John Henry Mills
from injured reserve. Put DB Eric Allen ao
injured reserve. Stoned DB Bucky Bracks.

ed reserve. Signed DB Bucky Branks. HOCKEY

NOV. 14 game.

NASHVILLE—Assigned G Tomas Vokoun to
Māwaukee. IHL. Recalled G Eric Fichaud
from Milwaukee.

ST. LOUIS-Assigned C Marty Res

SAN JOSE—Suspended D Andrei Zyuzin offer he refused assignment to Femucky. AHL Pecolled D Alexandre Bolkov from

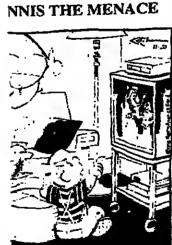
Kentucky.

OTTAWA—Recolled D Somi Salo from Detroit of the IHL. TAMPA BAY-Recoiled II Androi Stunict-

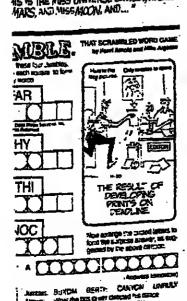
VANCOUVER-Recoiled D Chris McAlliste

NCAA-Put LSU's mens basketball team on 3 years probotion, including ineligibility for this years postseason and loss of 2 scholthis years posterious and loss of 2 scho-priships a year for 3 three years, because booster payed former player Lester Earl LSU will also lorted 5 victories Earl played in. western ATHLETIC CONFERENCE—Sus-pended San Diego State DE Autwone Young 1 game for righting and striking official in game organist San Jose State.

MID-CONTINENT CONFENENCE—Suspen-ded Southern Utah F Chad Bey 2 games for



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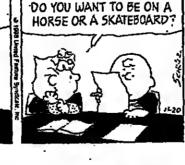
40U CALL

THAT EATING?!



YOUR CHEWING RHYTHM

IS WAY OUT OF SYNC!

































POSTCARD

Spain's Treasure Chest

By Al Goodman New York Times Samue

MADRID — The government finally unveiled the winning design for the twice. But in the process, new most controversial part of the space was created on the relong-delayed expansion of the Prado Museum, but on the day of the announcement last week, the winner, Rafael Moneo, was out of town.

He was in New York to present his addition for the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, one of his big U.S. projects, which also include construction in Los Angeles.

Monco. 61, is arguably Spain's best-known architect. and now he must enlarge this country's most famous museum, a treasure chest of art plagued by years of official indecision over moderniza- behind. That new structure. tion. He says he and the museum are a perfect match.

since I was a child and know rary exhibitions, the library well its problems, so for me and restoration workshops, it's a great source of sausThe addition will incorporate the same and restoration workshops. faction and responsibility," he said recently. "I'd like to put century cloisters that royalty my architectural experience at

the service of this project.

The Prado project, after two decades of debate, is more modest than earlier drafts. But it still aims to expand the 179year-old museum from two buildings to five, in hopes of better showcasing its unpar-alleled collection of Velazquez, Goya, El Greco, Rubens and Hieronymus Bosch. It will also allow the museum to display hundreds of paintings

now in storage. Parliament promised in 1995 to remove politics from the state-run Prado, and to start by fixing the leaky roof of the neoclassical rectangular main building. It was designed by Juan de Villanueva

museum opened in 1819. The \$14 million roof work has forced the 1656 Velazquez masterpiece "Las Meninas" to change galleries mote third floor to exhibit

18th-century European art. Moneo will guide the expansion's most closely scrutinized phase, to cost at least \$25 million. In the first major addition in decades to the main building, he will add a glass-roofed fover that will contain shops and the cafethe \$100 million Our Lady of teria, removing them from the the Angels Cathedral under main building and making more room for galleries.

The wedge-shaped foyer. in turn, will connect the main building to Moneo's planned Prado addition on the street with two underground levels topped by a four-story cube of 'I have visited the Prado red brick, will house tempo-

The addition will incorpor-

once used as a spiritual retreat. The Roman Catholic Church ceded the cloisters to the museum, but the adjacent Jeronimos Church will stay open for worship and for royal ceremonies and society weddings.

The architectural competition's jury lauded Moneo's plan as discreet and controlled" in linking the main building to the cloisters in the aristocratic neighborhood.

Moneo has designed half a dozen other museums, ineluding the rehabilitation to Madrid of the Villahermosa Palace for the Thyssen-Bomemisza Museum, which the Prado once coveted for its own expansion. He beat eight other competitors in the conand bas been used sloce the test run by the government.

Stories to Tell: Growing Up as Castro's

By Mirta Ojito

midrown French restaurant looking asked for coffee. disheveled, out of sons, lost.

Times Square on the subway.

Like her father. Alma Fernanappear distrustful. Unlike her fa-ther, she has no power, no money, no home, not even a famous last name. But she has stories to tell.

she were a bird.

"It is not easy being Fidel Castro's daughter," she said with a sigh. "In Cuba or here. When

And, as the children of famous men and women often do. Fernandez has written a book that has just been released - a tantalizing prospect for anyone who is curious about the private life of Castro.

story of Fernandez and the Cuba she knew for aimost 40 years, the years her father has been in power.
"It is my biography, not his,"
she said. "But it is his name that sells, not mine.

Fernandez, who said she never had her father's direct telephone number, visited his house only once and spent very fittle time with him and his family, seven sons by three women. Since she left Cuba in 1993, disguised as a Spanish tourist with a talse passport, the two have not spoken, she said.

But even before she left, relations were strained, in part because she did not like Castro as a father or as a political leader. In 1989, while divorce and later left the country. still living in Cuba, Femandez began to criticize Castro's government publicly and became a fixture in the dissident movement.

"I'm nervous today, and when I'm nervous I can't ear.

Fernandez ordered a tuna salad, er treated his daughter as such. but she had the waiter return it to

the kitchen. Too big, she said. In-stead, she asked for a glass of red NEW YORK—The only daugher of Fidel Castro walked into a grass of red winc. She fingered her cigarettes nervously and, as soon as the lunch crowd had left, she lighted up and

She has long had a troubled re-She was an hour and 20 minutes lationship with food. She said she late. She said she'd jost her way to was accrease for a while and was once so sick that one of her four former husbands may have saved dez. 42 has long fingers and a her life by putting bits of half-darkness in her eyes that makes her chewed food into her mouth, as if

> people see the child of their ex-ecutioner, it reminds them of him. When I see his victims, I can't help feeling some rension, some guilt.

There was pain in her voice, and a touch of boredom, too, as she told Yet very little in the book is about Castro nimself. "Castro's Daughter: An Exile's Memoir of Cuba," which has just been published in the United States, is the story of Europedia and the Color. Orlando Fernandez, who gave Alma his last name.

Revuelta fell in love with Castro. who was then married to a woman named Myrta Diaz-Balart, in the heyday of the insurrection that propelled him to power in 1959. The two met when Revuelta, who knew that Castro was an opposition leader, sent him a key to an apartment she kept in a ritzy Havana neigh-borhood so that he could use it to plan his underground activities.

When Castro was caught and sent to prison in 1953, Revuelta and Castro corresponded in secret until. one day, he mailed to his wife a lener intended for Revuelta and vice versa. Diaz-Balart filed for

Once Castro seized control of the government. Fernandez also left ie country, with the couple's older daughter. Natalie, leaving Revuelta "I'm just another exile with a in Havana with Alina. While story to tell," she said eyeing her bowl of lettuce with suspicion, daughter quite often in the early daughter quite often in the early years of the revolution, he oever offered to marry Revuelta and nev-By the time he offered to give his

Alina Fernandez: "I want it to end with the book."

preferred hers.

As her book makes clear, Fernandez was the victim of her father's mood swings. Sometimes he appeared to care for her; most times, he ignored her. Oo occasinn he brought her gifts. Balzac's combehavior, making it impossible for "she wanted them, and competitive come to terms with it.

other Cuban in a country with no other Cuban in a country with no food, no electricity, no good-paying jobs, no freedom to move, not even freedom to leave if you didn't like it," she said. "Being his groups, she left Cuba — and her only child, a daughter, Murnin Soon after, Castro allowed his grand-daughter to leave. Now 20. Murning lives in Miami with her father.

After a brief stav in Nami tights daughter his last name, it was too ber to even attempt to please him: late. Alina, then 12, told him she "I lived my life as if I were any

plete works in French and a doll But it also meant that despite her peace and where, she says, she that looked like him. A few times, the called her to the presidential palace to admonish her for her rebellious character. But, Fernandez

But it also meant that despite her peace and where, she says, she hopes she will one day be able to stop talking about the man people never jailed, as many dissidents call her father and she calls Fidel.

"I want it to end with the book." bellious character, But, Fernandez were. Nor was her life like everyone I want it to end with the book, said, there was no pattern to his else's. Jobs were available when she said, "But if it doesn't, I've

daughter. In C not like her fathe who wished they Castro and mistrus everyone else. She had fe and even fewer privileges "If the world knew the about the history of this you

woman, perhaps her situation would be different, he wrote in a newspaper column in 1988, the year Fernandez began her desperate attempt to leave Cuba. At the time, she was married to a Mexican citizen and wanted to travel to Mexico. Her father denied her request. The marriage ended in divorce, Eventually, aided by Spanish friends with ties to human rights

like it," she said. Being his Fernandez moved to Spain. She daughter meant only that I was now lives in Madrid, the one place watched all the time."

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m Sale:

Alice McDermott Wins National Book Award

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Alice McDermott, the author of "Charming Billy." a novel about Irish-Americans and the way a lost love can continue to hacm a life, was the surprise winner of the National Book Award for liction.

The expected winner had been Tom Wolfe's "A Man in Full." a book about race and real estate in the New South. "Charming Billy" also beat another strong cootender, "Damascus Gate" by Robert Stone, the story of a conspiracy to blow up the Temple Mouot in Jerusalem.

The chairman of the judging panel for fiction. Thomas Mallon, said "Charming Billy" had "a voice like nothing we could recall, it found us, it was what we kept hearing."

McDermott, who lives in Washington, was a National Book Award finalist in 1987 for her novel "That Night."

The nonfiction award went to Edward Ball for his first book. "Slaves in the Family," about his search for the descendants of the slaves owned by his ancestors in South Carolina and his attempt to contront the moral burden of

use a fourth of his book's earnings to set up a foundation with both black and white members "to create restitution programs we design together. The winner of the poetry award was Gerald Stern for "This Time: New and Selected Poems," a summary of a lifetime's work of poems about the city,

slavery. Ball, who was a columnist for The Village Voice, said he planned to

memory and faith. Louis Sachat won the award for young people's literature for "Holes." a

humorous story of a teenager who is wrongly sent to a detention center.

Each winner teceived \$10,000, and \$1,000 each went to the runners-go The National Book Foundation, which administers the awards, gave John Updike, author of 49 books, the 1998 National Book Foundation Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters and \$10,600.

PEOPLE

MICKEY MOUSE, the animated rodent in short pants, has turned 70. To mark the occasion, the Disney studio plans a four-hour birthday broadcast to be shown on two of its cable television channels. The company also unveiled a painting by John Hench, the official pontait artist canvas in 1953 for Mickey's 25th birthday. Mickey Mouse was born on Nov. 18, 1928, in a cartoon entitled "Steamboat Willie" in which his creator. Walt Disney, was also his voice. Walt Disney once described Mickey Mouse as "a Intic fellow trying to do the best he could." At the beginning, Disney wanted to call his new creation "Mortimer." but apparently was overruled by his wife, who said the name lacked charm. She suggested "Mickey."

The actor Alain Defon has lost a bid to block publication of a biography of him. A judge in Paris ruled that a ban imposed in August on Bernard Violet is contrary to freedom of expression because the final contents of the book are uncertain. Delon. Christie's auction house, it was bought by an anonwho has seen a synopsis, accused Violet of being a "spelunker of the garbage can" to get information.

Athina Roussel, the heiress to the Onassis ship-record £947,500 at auction in London in April.

ping fortune, attended a memorial service to mark the 10th anniversary of ber mother's death. The 13year-old granddaughter of the late shipping mogul Aristotle Onassis placed 38 roses on her mother's grave, representing Christina Onassis' age at the time of her death. Her father, Thierry Roussel, of Mickey Mouse. Hench first put the mouse on accompanied her to the Ionian Sea island of Skorpios, a family spokesman said.

The French magazine Voici has been ordered to pay \$12,500 in damages to Trevor Rees-Jones, the bodyguard of Diana. Princess of Wales, for publishing an "interview" he says never took place. The magazine was also ordered by a court in Paris to publish the ruling in its next issue. Rees-Jones was the sole survivor of the 1997 crash that killed Diana. Dudi al Fayed and their driver, Henri Paul.

A Stradivarius violin was sold for £529,500 15884,000) in London, below the price hoped for by ymous private buyer over the telephooe. Of about 1.000 violins made by the Italian instrument-maker Antonio Stradivari from 1670 to 1730, only 450 to



John Hench with his portrait of Mickey Mouse.



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